the Link

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 9, Number 42
Thursday, April 6, 1989

Science & Environmental Issue

AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicise Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office in room 649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday's issue, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's paper.

THURSDAY APRIL 6

Comedien Judy de Croon at the Oasis Lounge, Loyola, 3:30 pm.
Civilization: Can We Afford It? with Wolfgang Bottenberg, 4-5:30pm, Lonergan College, 7302 Sherbrooke W. Info 848-2280

FRIDAY APRIL 7

Ph.D Workshop- Brent Gallupe on Group Decision Support Systems, 2-4pm, GM 403-02, 1550 de Maisonneuve W. refreshments.
Comedien Judy de Croon at Reggies, 3:30 pm.
Prospects for Peace & Development in Angola & Namibia in light of the peace protocol between Angola & South Africa and the independence of Namibia: panel discussion. 7:30pm, Macdonald-Harrington Builing room G-10, McGill University. FREE. Info 271-1133/499-0314/398-3507
Andrew Homzy Jazz Orchestra, 8 pm, Hall 110, FREE.
The Frailty of Masculine Identity, with Guy Corneau, 8-10 pm, Hall 435, sponsored by the C.G.Jung Society, $5, info 280-3441.

SATURDAY APRIL 8

The Current situation in South Africa and proposals for action in Canada: speakers, workshops, plenary. 12 pm, College Brebeuf, 3200 Cote Ste-Catherine, FREE.Info 271-1133/499-0314/398-3507
Composition Class Concert, 8 pm, Loyola Chapel.

SUNDAY APRIL 9

Mozart's Le Nozze Di Figaro, concert version. 8 pm, Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke W, FREE.
Diploma Recital, Suzanne Ozorak, organ, 8 pm, St-Mathais Church, corner Cote St-Antoine & Church. FREE.

MONDAY APRIL 10

Jazz Ensemble 1, 8 pm, Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke W, FREE.

TUESDAY APRIL 11

Amateur Radio Club General Meeting, H-644-1, info 848-7421 tuesday nights.
Chamber Music, works by Honegger, Martinu, Gabrieli, Poulenc. Loyola Chapel, 8 pm, FREE.
Diploma Recital, Li-Si Zhang, voice, Hingston Recital Hall, 8 pm, FREE.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12

4 Creations, final concert in the Actualite/Hear and Now series. New works for tape, live and tape, and live electroacoustics. 8 pm, AD-131 Loyola, FREE.
Rhian Kenny, flute, works by Bach, Copland, Ferrond, Dvoracek, Doppler, Martinu, 8 pm, Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke W, FREE.

GENERAL

EMERGENCY LOANS-Short term loans, maximum $200 available Dean of Students, 2135 Mackay. Visit M-06 or call 848-3519.
LGFC Office is open everyday. Lesbians, gays and friends welcome to sit, study, talk, have coffee, etc. 2020 Mackay, # P102
Hillel Volleyball 5-7 pm Mondays Birks Hall gym, Norris Bldg. Info 848-7492.
Coming out- Support Group for Gays, one for males, one for females. Discussions, guest speakers. For info call David at 482-5815.
Free Legal Aid clinic, Wednesdays 3-5, 2135 Mackay (Dean of Students off) call & make appt to ask questions- any legal problems for students & staff. 848-3517 Dean of Students Office.
Amateur Radio Club Meetings every tuesday 7 pm, Hall 644-1. Info 848-7421. Nominations open until April 11 for President, Vice-president, Secretary & Treasurer. General meeting April 11.
Debating Society meetings, Wed: H-333, 7 pm; Fri: H-625, 2 pm. Learn to debate and speak in public. Info 848-7412.
Free Writing Help. Having problems with a paper? Worried about the university writing test? Guidance services offers free writing help. Come by Hall-440 and sign up with a writing tutor.
Anti-Apartheid weekly meetings Tuesdays 7 pm, office hours 3-5pm, Tue-Thur, P-203, 2020 Mackay. Info 848-7474-message for Moe.
Advocacy: Do you have a problem with: Professors, grades, exams, another student or the administration? Feeling victimized or sexually harassed? Our student advocates can help. CUSA 848-7474.
CANAL COMPLEX Exhibitions- April 1-30: Yellow- Shuk Cheung; Red- A is for Furniture; Grey- Terry Emrick; Blue- Confid'art. 4710 Ste-Ambroise, St. Henri. Info 935-1291
Stanley Cup Playoffs on the big screen at Reggies & the Campus Centre.
McGill School of Architecture graduating class exhibit, April 10-21, Macdonald-Harrington Building. Open 10am to 5 pm. Info 398-6700. FREE
Sara Morley, works on paper: A Woman's Nightmare. Concordia Women's Centre, April 6-June 1. Vernissage April 6, 4-7pm. 2020 Mackay.
Graduate Students Association Election, April 10-12.

WOMENS' LISTINGS

Lesbian Studies at Concordia! Come and find out about a non-heterosexist

continued on page 4

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The Hypnosis Laboratory of Concordia University is looking for participants for studies involving memory, imagery, and hypnosis. Those interested should contact the lab Tues. 12-2 pm, Wed. 3-5 pm & Thurs. 6-8 pm at 848-2213. Volunteers will be paid for their participation.

Waitresses/waiters, Part-time/full-time for Japanese Restaurant. Call Mrs. Ishii or Noella 288-9122.

American-graduated dentist looking for patients to bring to the Canadian Dental Licensing Exam on May 31 through June 2. Interested volunteers for free dental screening, please contact Dr. HAI at 738-6831.

ARTISTS AHOY! Talented, qualified artist needed to illustrate book (for publication). Good remuneration. Knowledge- Quebecois culture/language necessary. Send resume/examples of ink work to 244 Petite Caroline, Rougemont, J0L 1M0 Call 1-469-5623.

LAST CAMP JOBS: Head of Arts & Crafts, Drama, Pottery & Judo. June 27-August 17, PRIPSTEIN'S CAMP, located one hour north of Montreal. Call 481-1875.

Photography Students! Need your photos! will pay. Angela: 674-4484.

APARTMENTS

Roomate needed for May 1 for highrise 2 min away from Loyola. Two fascinating women with two nifty cats want to extend co-op living to three people. No slobs, but feminists & progressives welcome. $260/mth all included. Jen or Steph. 488-9361.

For rent July 1 - September 1 - Montreal(NDG) Fully furnished, sunny and tasteful apartment (fireplace, wood floors, antiques), 3 bedrooms (or 2 bedrooms and den, plus separate study) 5 appliances, walking distance to Loyola Campus, excellent access to downtown, quiet neighboorhood. Civilized child(ren) welcome. Apartment has live-in cat (also civilized). Rent $650.00 month p.o.u. Tel: 514-487-2883

Sublet a fully furnished 4 1/2 for the summer. May 1st - Aug 31st. Sunny and close to EVERYTHING - especially Vendome Metro. $450/month. Call 482-2081

Big, Clean, furnished 4 1/2 1 May - 1 Sept. Either sublet to 2 people or share with 1 person, good location. Call 737-7297 til midnight.

To share: large double room available in a sunny 8 1/2 on plateau. This is for the summer (May 1-Aug 31) with possibility of remaining after. Must be/or be comforable with feminism. Call 848-7406, 845-9869

Looking for large 6 1/2 - 7 1/2 for Sept. 1, preferably Plateau area. Phil 281-1674 or 848-7405

Room to rent in New Condo for Spring and Summer students. Furnished, access to kitchen, commodities. Facing Metro. 10 minutes from Concordia. $300/monthly. Call 288-9638

Sublet: May 1 - Aug 31, 1 1/2 on Clark near Duluth. Rent $250/month utilities included. Phone 284-4881, mornings.

Looking for a roomate(female) to share large sunny 5 1/2 with one woman + Emma the cat. Next to Lionel Groulx metro - balcony, huge kitchen, high ceilings - June 1, $240/mth. Vegetarians, smokers, catlovers + feminist/progressive types welcome. 848-7405 or 937-5649

FREE! rent for 2 weeks if you decide to sublet this wonderful 4 1/2 apt., available May 1st. You name it, it's close to it. Call 482-2081

Peel Street House—renovated, spacious brownstone available for summer sublet to students-individuals or groups/exchange programmes. Single/double rooms. Cal 288-1618

APARTMENT- 4 1/2 split level, renovated, w/w carpet, near Lionel Groulx metro. $550/mo. 466-3121

Professor and two small children (civilized) have quiet lovely apartment (duplex) in N.D.G. to share with responsible student or graduate student. Walking distance to Loyola, easy access to downtown. Beautiful room in light, sunny apartment, washer/dryer microwave, fireplace. Rent=$250/month includes utilities; rent (or part therof) can be commuted into child-minding. Resident cat; nonsmoker preferred. Available after May 1. Telephone 514-487-2883.

Roomate wanted. September 1/89, big furnished 4 1/2, good location, $250 all included. Easy-going. lease call 737-7297 til midnight.

1 1/2 to sublet- $315, wood floors, balcony, very sunny; second half of April free. Call after 6:00: 342-3975.

continued on page 4

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Palestinians off the hook

Students cleared of complaint

by Heidi Modro

The university has cleared two Palestinian students who were accused of distributing anti-semitic and hate-breeding literature during an exhibit last November.

In a report handed down last Tuesday, the board set up by the university to look into the complaints said the exhibit criticized Israel and not Jews. It recommended that Concordia's student association encourage a peace dialogue between the university's Jewish and Palestinian groups.

Last November, a Concordia Collective for Palestinian Human Rights (CCPHR) exhibit presented newspaper articles, posters, pamphlets and other literature attacking the Israeli government for its treatment of Palestinians over the past 40 years.

Thirteen students and two faculty members lodged complaints against the two Palestinians with the university's Code of Conduct board about the display.

Some members of the university community were outraged by a leaflet of an Israeli soldier and an elderly Palestinian man that read "New Nazis New Victims."

They were also angered about a pamphlet comparing the star of David with the Nazi swastika.

Ra'ad Ra'ad, a member of the Concordia Collective for Palestinian Human Rights, said the board's decision shows the university is living up to its mandate of being an institution where different ideas can flow freely.

"In the end freedom of expression prevailed. The only way to get truth is through debate not through censorship," Ra'ad said. "We're against the policies of the state of Israel. Some of the people who support that state happen to be Jewish. That does not mean we are against their religion."

In a statement released last week, the Concordia Jewish Students Union said it complained about the exhibit's "blatant anti- Semitism threatened...the integrity of the University and its commitment to the reasoned pursuit of truth."

"(We) assume now that the CCPHR will, like other campus organizations, take the Hearing Committee's observations and recommendations to heart, and that it will in future respect the rights and feelings of others even as it supports the causes to which, like any other student group, it is entitled to be committed."

Code of Conduct board administrator John Relton refused to comment on the decision, saying it is confidential.

But according to the Code of Conduct report, "there is no doubt in the mind of the (board) that many members of the University, both Jewish and others, were indignant, genuinely affected, and seriously aggrieved by the use of the symbols of Jewry" used in the exhibit.

But the report said the exhibit criticized Israel and not Jews.

"The graphic design equating the Star of David with a swastika could reasonably be interpreted as an attack on Israeli Armed

Forces which use this symbol — rather than an inevitable attack on Jews generally," the report said.

The board, which has the power to fine students or recommend their expulsion from the university, said no further action should be taken against the members of the CCPHR.

Last November's Palestinian human rights exhibit tested the boundries of freedom of expression at Concordia.

One week after Hall building evacuation

Students left out in cold

by Mike Orsini

Tony Dell'ermo was heading for his sixth-floor locker to pick up a notepad when suddenly his eyes began to tear.

Soon after, he and over 5,000 other Concordia students were evacuated from the Hall building into the shivering cold following an alleged chemical leak.

"Everybody was panicking," the biochemistry student said. "I thought the school was going to blow up."

No serious injuries were reported, but three people, including maintenance person Agostino Borsallino, were immediately rushed to the Montreal General Hospital.

One week later, university officials have yet to determine the cause of the Thursday afternoon evacuation.

Mary Baldwin, Concordia's occupational health and safety co ordinator, denied media reports of a gas leak.

"There was a release of a volatile chemical, not a gas leak," she said. "It was clear there was a chemical irritant involved."

But Baldwin said a lack of "hard evidence" may hamper any investigation. "Nobody has a sample of what it was," she said.

"It (the cause) is extremely difficult to pin down."

While some were saying the chemical involved was chlorine, a cafeteria employee on duty at the time of the leak said the smell emanating from the seventh floor was stronger than chlorine.

"It (the smell) was coming from the ventilation," Elaine Garbacz said. "All of a sudden your throat would get dry, then your eyes and you'd get really nauseous. Then you'd get dizzy."

Garbacz also feared the food she was wrapping at the time may have been contaminated from the chemical leak. "With all this chemical stuff in it, you never know what it could be if you eat it."

Baldwin said recommendations were made to have the exposed food thrown out.

Immediately after the evacuation, vice-rector of services Charles Giguere confirmed there had been an "irritating" chemical smell detected on the seventh floor.

But he said the university's chemical control specialists couldn't pinpoint it.

"A very careful check of all laboratories was carried out," he said. "It was determined that there had been no spilled chemicals of any sort (from the laboratories)."

After a one and a half hour wait, Fire station 10 lieutenant Jacques Paquin decided it was safe to let students back into the university because the smell had dissapated.

Shirley Maynes, Giguere's assistant, said while the investigation was pending, the university wouldn't rule out anything.

"This could have been a prankster with a mid-term he didn't want to write," she said yesterday. "The actual cause may never be known."

At about 2:30 the same day, Loyola's Hackett and Cloran buildings had to be evacuated after Hydro Quebec ruptured a disused gasline near the area.

But Giguere said students were allowed back into the buildings when it was learned the torn through gasline was not in use and contained no residual substances.

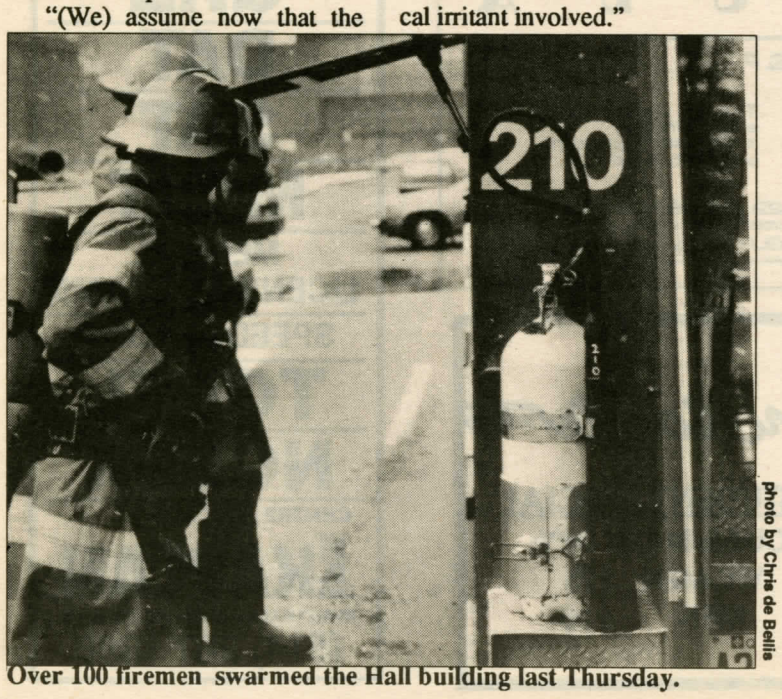

photo by Chris de Bellis

Over 100 firemen swarmed the Hall building last Thursday.

Water tests coming

Paper mill spills PCBs in Saint-Maurice River

by Dan Hogan

Pulp and paper giant, Consolidated Bathurst Inc. accidentally spilled 6,800 litres of contaminated oil into the Saint- Maurice River near Shawinigan yesterday.

The spilled oil contained about one half litre of toxic PCBs at a concentration of 67 parts per million (ppm), according to a company press release.

An Environment Canada official in charge of emergencies said the government has not yet issued a warning.

"We don't know what the results are of the tests of the drinking water of Trois-Rivieres, which is downstream," Gilles Cloutier said. "The results should be ready tomorrow morning.

"However, Health and Welfare Canada, from their initial estimates looking at the concentration and water flow, says the population downstream is in no danger."

In an interview on Radio-Canada's Le Point last night, toxicologist Eric Dewailly said that consuming one gram of the contaminated oil would give the equivalent dose of PCBs one would normally eat in a day.

Consolidated Bathurst said in its press release that the oil came from a transformer at its Belgo Division in Shawinigan at 4:30 p.m. yesterday. Three metres of pipe between the transformer and a holding tank had been previously cut, but had not been sealed off, as is usually done.

When the oil was pumped, it fell to the ground and went directly into a sewer that leads to the Shawinigan River, which in turn feeds into the Saint-Maurice River.

Diane Goulet, the head of Greenpeace's pulp and paper campaign in Quebec, criticized Consolidated Bathurst for not having retention walls and tanks which could collect leakages of toxic materials.

"It's a serious spill just by virtue of the fact it shows the company's negligence ," Goulet said.

"It happens often at pulp and paper mills, and often that goes directly into the river because they don't have any system to recuperate spills."

Cloutier said Consolidated Bathurst, Environment Quebec and several companies, including Sanivan, that deal with oil spills are deploying booms and using vacuum pumps to remove the oil.

"All this oil floats, and so it's easier to recover than a chemical

continued from page 2

education! All lesbians and women, students, faculty or staff welcome! Ongoing Wednesdays, 3 pm, 2170 Bishop, lounge. April 5: Discussion: Sharon Stone, professor of Lesbians in Society(to be offered Jan. 1990, S. de B. Inst.) will speak about her course, & is looking for input.

Montreal Sexual Assault Centre needs volunteers for its 24-hour, 7-days a week crisis line. Next training session April 14, 15, 16, and 22. Interested, bilingual,women should call 934-4504.

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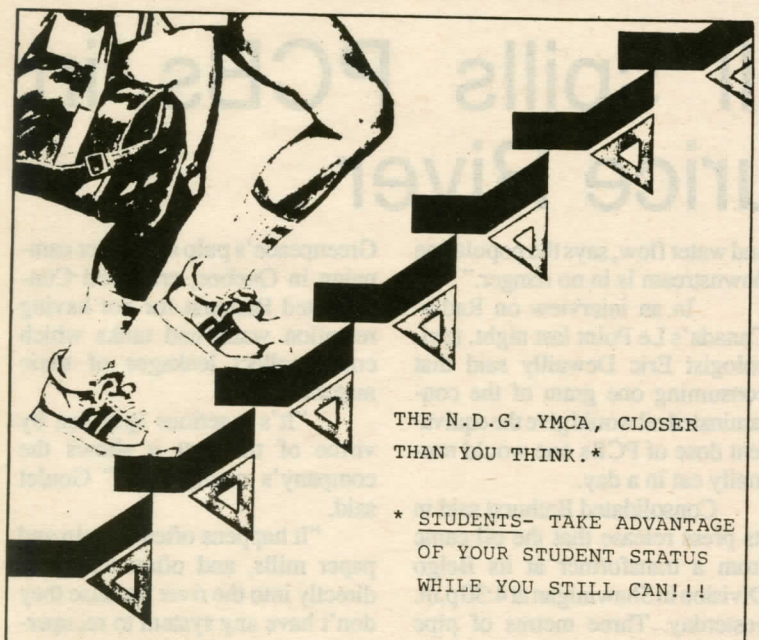

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Action-Self-defence course for women, April 8 & 15, 9:30 - 4;00, Simone de Beauvoir lounge. $25 for 2-day course. Limited enrollment, so register now. Sponsored by Concordia Women's Collective & CUSA, 848-7411.

Sara Morley, works on paper: A Woman's Nightmare. Concordia Women's Centre, April 6-June 1. Vernissage April 6, 4-7pm. 2020 Mackay.

We are back this year with renewed energy and are looking forward to welcoming new members. For more info: 848-7443. Watch for info on meetings and events on the Women's Collective.

Bi-the-way- Discussion group for bi-sexual women, every friday at the Women's Centre 7 pm. 2020 Mackay p-annex (downstairs) Info 848-7431 message for Elyse.

Women's Narcotics Anonymous, Thursdays at 7:30 pm, 2020 Mackay. Info 845-1035 or 848-7431 (Beverly) message.

Black Women's Collective weekly meetings, Fridays at 6 pm, P-307, 2020 Mackay. Open to all women of colour. Info Nancy DeGraff 848-7474 (message)

Women's Discussion Group-10-12h wednesdays, Concordia Women's Centre, 2020 Mackay, Women of all ages & backgrounds welcome. Fionas 286-8188 or message 848-7431.

Narcotics Anonymous: Women's Group-for women recovering or wanting to recover from substance abuse. Thursdays 19h30, Concordia Women's Centre. 2020 Mackay, info: 939-3092, 848-7431(message Beverly)

Bulimia Support Group-women learning to overcome negative coping mechanisms in a supportive environment. Group facilitator is Kathleen Hewitt-Blackie MA. $30, meetings Mondays 10-11h30

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continued from page 2

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Vanier library angers students with security

by Karen McCairley

After three months of letting security guards going through their bags before leaving the Vanier library, students are fed up and wondering why a new electronic security system has not been installed.

Psychology student Karen Dodds, said she's angry that guards are always going through her personal belongings before she leaves the building.

"It's embarrassing for one thing," she said. "And it's a complete invasion of privacy. I'm in and out all day long and it's a real hassle having to get your bags checked all the time."

The university is spending close to $1 400 per week to employ the security guards from SECUR company.

Since the new building opened in January, only one theft has been reported.

But one security guard said the system is by no means fool- proof.

"If people want to steal a book, all they have to do is put it in their coat," said the guard who wished to remain anonymous.

He said most people caught with books at the security desk have forgotten to check them out.

"Anyone who respects their library, the first thing they do is install an alarm system," said another guard. "I hope they do it soon. I don't like this job."

Joseph Princz, Planning and Resources Director for the library, said he has no idea when students can expect to see a new electronic security system.

He said it would already have been installed, if the original security system the university looked at had not been too expensive.

"It was supposed to be in place sometime ago, but the cost was too high, now we're scrambling to get something cheaper that functions as well as the higher priced systems."

Princz could not say how much Concordia is willing to spend on the system.

But Concordia's Library Director Al Mate, who also does not know when the system will be in place, contradicted Princz.

"We have it (the system) pretty well designed, it's just a matter of installation," said Mate.

A student at Vanier library goes through a security search.

In their second week

Doctors press demands with hunger strike

by Wayne Hiltz

Only steps away from Concordia's Fine Arts Building last week ,a Sri Lankan doctor who was two months pregnant miscarried.

Medical authorities said the woman lost her child from the stress of the hunger strike she had begun two days earlier.

Sixteen foreign-born Canadian doctors have been on a week-long hunger strike demanding the righ to practice medicine in Quebec.

Spokesperson for the group Dr. Vinod Tawar said the hunger strike is their last resort.

"We started a hunger strike because we have gone through all the possible channels with the Health Ministry and so far nobody has come up with a useful solution," Tawar said.

Ninety-seven doctors from the Association des medecins diplomes hors du Quebec began pressuring the provincial government in 1985 for internships.

Dr Tawar said they received government assurances four years ago that all 97 doctors would become interns if they passed a qualifying medical exam and a French proficiency test.

But when only 72 of the 97 doctors were accepted as interns, they decided to launch the hunger strike from the basement of the Montreal Crescent Hotel on Rene Levesque Blvd.

Dr. Tawar said a dozen foreign doctors who were not part of the group and who arrived in Quebec after they did received the internships.

"We feel the government has treated us unfairly," Tawar said. A Health Ministry spokesperson said they have offered a compromise which would mean taking another test for an additional 10 interns.

The foreign doctors have refused this, saying they have already met all the requirements.

"They are like military officers whose orders we must accept without any objection although they are unjust," Vinod said.

The vice-president of the Quebec Human Rights Commission made a preliminary study of the doctors' situation on Wednesday.

"It seems to be an injustice," said Sophia Florakis-Petsalis, referring to the doctors being passed over.

She said it was encouraging that all 16 doctors have signed a paper stating they are willing to go to remote parts of the province where there is a shortage of doctors."

"How many Quebec doctors want to do this?" she asked.

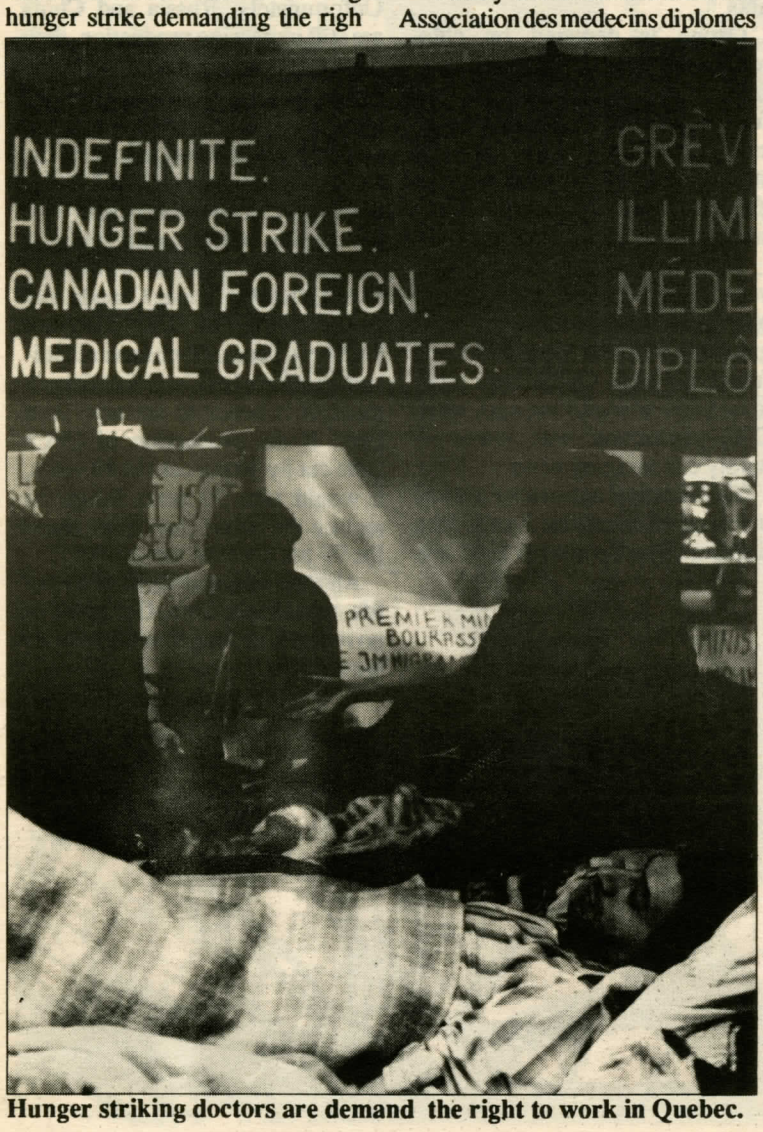


photo by Edward Davey

Hunger striking doctors are demand the right to work in Quebec.

Yes to QPIRG

by Karen McCairley

Over six hundred students voted last week to make Concordia the first Quebec university to join North America's network of Public Interest Research Groups (PIRG).

Concordia students now have the option of paying 20 cents per credit towards financing QPIRG's Concordia chapter, which bills itself as a student advocacy group involved in environmental research.

Q-PIRG member Ken Huck said he plans to work through the summer to prepare next year's projects. Huck said QPIRG will organize a list of concerns over the holidays to present to students in September.

"We want to give students the opportunity to choose an issue of concern that they'd like to see us concentrate on," said Huck.

"We'll be asking students what they want by randomly handing out a survey to about 200 students in the first week of the next school year."

This was QPIRG's second referendum for independent funding. Last March, the 50-member group lost the referendum because the group was virtually unknown by students.

This year, 380 students still voted against QPIRG's bid for independent funding.

CUSA's plan to impose a $48 a year health insurance plan was defeated during the same referendum, with 596 students voting against the plan and 403 people supporting it.

continued from page 3

that would dissolve in the water," he said.

About 25 workers will spend the next couple of days cleaning up the mess, but their efforts will be somewhat hampered by strong spring currents and eddies, he said.

She said that Greenpeace asked Environment Quebec last summer to hold a public inquiry into regulating spills coming from pulp and paper mills after several spills in Jonquiere last August.

"If the company doesn't report spills like that to Environment Quebec, nobody knows about it. Often it's citizens who call Environment Quebec."

Goulet is also concerned about the long term effects of yesterday's spill.

" Nobody will probably die tomorrow because of the spill, but there could be long term dangers because PCBs accumulate and are not easily bio-degradable."

News Tips — 848-7405

Is there a news story you think *the Link* should cover?
Are you pissed off about the way something is done at Concordia?
Having a problem with the university's bureaucracy?
Is a professor smoking during your class?
Has a professor scheduled an exam during the last week of school?

If you have a news tip,
call the Link news hotline.

Tune in to worldwide Earth Concerts

by Suzanne Diamond

At this moment, with massive oil spills in Alaska, highly toxic pesticides seeping from containers at the bottom of the English Channel and at least 20 species going extinct every day, musicians are trying to restore some ecological harmony by organizing Earth Concerts around the world.

This twelve-hour extravaganza will feature live music of all kinds. It was spearheaded by a group of environmentalists from Anse St. Jean, Quebec and is now being organized in several different countries.

The ultimate goal of the event, said the founder of the project, Jean Hudon, is "to build a global understanding of our unity and inter-dependance with all life, and our responsibility to care for life on Earth for the generations to come."

December 31, 1989 is the proposed day when musicians and artists from all corners of the world will join together in globally televised benefit concerts.

The project hopes to generate an Earth Fund, directed by a panel of expert environmental consultants working toward regeneration of the biosphere. As well, it aims to help people attain a deeper attunement with the mysterious forces of life on this planet.

The network of support groups working to set up these events extends into thirty different countries. Concerts have been confirmed in Paris, at the Palais des Halles, and major promoters are now organizing the events in the U.S., Russia, Japan, Egypt, and Canada.

Smaller concerts to help raise funds for the major December 31st event will also be taking place, including a few in Montreal.

The theme will be "Global Awareness, Local Action", or better said, "Think globally, act locally".

Accompanying the concerts is an awareness campaign that will consist of distributing pamphlets entitled *The Seven Blunders of the World* to inform people about the current critical world situation, as well as what they can do to help (see page 10).

Various environment groups will focus on key local issues, to help pinpoint action that Canada ought to be taking but is not. These will deal primarily with policy changes needed for improved forest management and clean air measures.

"This international event will create a breakthrough that will allow humanity to go past war and competition and create a world of peace and co-operation," says Hudon.

His confidence in this breakthrough comes from his belief that "life has a purpose and there is a plan unfolding which we are all a part of. It is the evolution of the consciousness of the universe which we are becoming aware of and acting upon — we are all a part of this process."

These are the ideas brought forth by Hudon in his recently published book, The *Immortal Child*. They are based on the ageless wisdom of many Eastern cultures on the mysteries of the universe — and of life.

A fifteen minute movie, adapted from this novel, will be shown before these concerts to help initiate the audience into the real mood and purpose of the concerts.

The book and the material covering the progress of the Earth Concerts project has been translated into ten different languages.

But perhaps the most important message is the need to change personal priorities if we are to survive as a race into the future — without leaving our grandchildren with a decimated planet...

All too often, while people grow up they lose sight of what is truly important, and in the scurry to achieve personal success (usually material wealth), they pay little attention to what their success means to the biosphere or to the poor of the world.

With the new data from quantum physics proving that all things are connected and that the well being of the one cannot be separated from the whole, perhaps the people of the Earth can more readily act on this and start working for the good of all life on the planet — in time.

O woe is the ozone

by John Ernst

All life on this planet requires protection from ultraviolet radiation. Ozone provides this protection, whether in the ozone layer or below.

A one-per-cent drop in ozone can cause a three-per-cent rise in skin cancer. Ultraviolet radiation also causes cataracts, affects the immune system and damages crops... so much for aging gracefully.

Fortunately, ozone is being created. Nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons from car exhaust and carbon dioxides create ozone, yet near the earth's surface, these chemicals are pollutants.

Ozone is depleted by chloroflourocarbons (CFCs) used in refrigerators, air conditioners, fast food containers, solvents and cleaners. These CFCs gather in polar stratospheric clouds which, when exposed to sunlight, begin to destroy ozone.

The CFCs take an averge of 75 years to break down in the atmosphere and attack ozone. So we're gambling with our grandchildren's future, not ours. Our present problems were created long ago, when CFC production was lower — hardly encouraging news.

The Montreal agreement in 1987 involved 33 countries. It calls for a limiting of production to 1986 levels by 1990. Then, by 1994, a reduction of 20 per cent and a further 30-per-cent reduction will follow at an unspecified date.

Hopefully, we'll see more political consensus around the world. Unfortunately, Russia and China are still increasing production, they want refrigerators too.

There are two holes in the ozone layer now, one over each pole. A swirling vortex of clouds over the North Pole is priming itself to release more ozone destruction with the coming of the spring sunlight. All northern countries will be affected, and this means Canada too.

According to Dr. Michael McElroy, head of the Harvard University atmospheric sciences department, it is better to act now than later. If the production of CFCs were cut by 90 per cent in 10 years, it would take 50 years longer to replace the ozone than if we made the 90 per cent cut tomorrow.

Anyone with ambitions of a long life should take note. Our point of no return is no longer as far away as we thought.

Educate, agitate, decontaminate

by Martin Russ

Faced with a seemingly overwhelming environmental crisis, some people foresee a bleak future for our planet. But maintaining a pessimistic attitude will only serve to compound the problems we face. Our generation is facing the most fascinating and challenging crisis in centuries. It is not a crisis in the sense that we must frantically search for a solution, because the solution is painfully clear. The crisis lies in having this solution implemented and enforced on a global basis. A friend of mine recently said, "If we wanted to, our problems could be completely resolved within a matter of months." The technology is there; we're just not using it. The answer no doubt lies in educating the public and providing them with avenues to voice their opinions. Numbers speak volumes and the power of the people should not be underestimated. Sooner or later, the politicians upstars will have to listen because whether they know it or not, ignorance will cost us all.

Radar satellite will forecast environmental dangers

Multi-million-dollar space watchdog needs more home-grown masters to keep guard

by Dan Hogan

Canada will soon have an eye in the sky —a satellite that can take detailed pictures of oil spills, ice flows, forest destruction and soil erosion to help us use resources more wisely.

But getting the most out of these pictures will depend on how many satellite experts Canada has down on earth, say scientists who are lobbying the federal government for more training and research funding.

When the Radarsat satellite is launched in 1994 on board a U.S. rocket, it will be the most sophisticated of its kind.

Unlike other earth-monitoring satellites which detect visible or infrared light, Radarsat detects microwaves and can collect data under virtually all weather conditions. At an altitude of 800 kilometres, it can resolve two points as little as 10 metres apart on the earth's surface.

The satellite can also cover the arctic every day, the country every three days and the globe every 16 days.

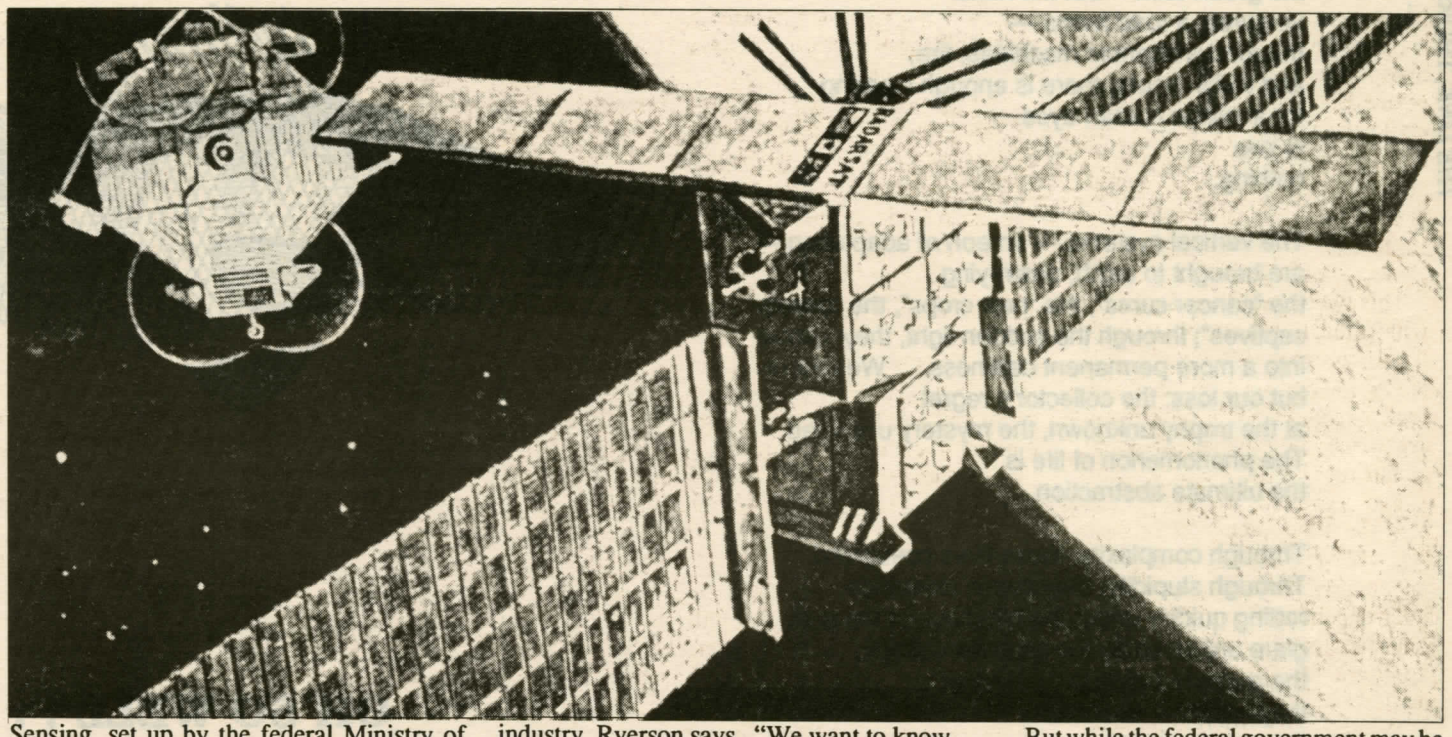
American scientists realized the potential of microwave remote-sensing technology for resource management in 1978 when they launched the experimental Seasat satellite. During its brief 100-day orbit, it collected large amounts of data.

Europeans will soon follow the U.S. example by putting up their own microwave-sensing ERS-1 satellite in 1991. It, too, will only be experimental and will stay in orbit for two to three years.

Radarsat, on the other hand, will be a more sophisticated satellite and will stay up for five years, says Dr. Surendra Parashar, design and evaluation manager for the Radarsat program. He says the satellite will be able to distinguish between individual fields and roads regardless of cloud cover or darkness.

Radarsat could have monitored the recent oil spill off the coast of B.C., enabling prompter clean-up.

Radarsat will also provide information more frequently than current satellites, says Bob Ryerson, head of user assistance at the Ottawa based Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, set up by the federal Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources in 1971.



Ryerson says that Radarsat allows a quick response to environmental dangers. For example, Radarsat could have monitored the recent oil spill off the coast of British Columbia, enabling prompter clean-up.

Radarsat can also help resource industries, he says. The satellite can pick up ice movements, which could help make arctic oil drilling a lot safer. It can also help pinpoint areas with potential mineral deposits.

Other ways that Radarsat could monitor the environment are helping to prosecute companies that dump oil in the St. Lawrence River, reduce the area of spraying in forests infested with Spruce bud worm, and provide an early warning of soil erosion and drought, especially in the Third World.

Ryerson says that Canada has already applied remote sensing technology to these areas using airplanes. Further application of the technology will come when the Europeans launch their satellite, for which Canada will provide the image production system.

Leadership in remote sensing technology is especially important for maintaining Canada's sovereignty and market share in the industry, Ryerson says. "We want to know more about our natural resources than anyone else does."

Four provinces — Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia and Saskatchewan — will be involved in the Radarsat project, but all provinces will benefit, Parashar says. The project is expected to cost Canada $279 million for construction and $50 million for operation. Canada will provide the microwave-sensing technology and data analysis, while the U.S. will provide the launching and the satellite shell. Britain was supposed to provide the satellite shell but pulled out in 1987 because of budget cutbacks.

The Canadian government has already awarded Spar Aerospace Ltd. of Toronto a $1.5-million contract to develop part of the project's radar system, which will probably be done at Spar's satellite facility in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, west of Montreal.

The government is also setting up a company which will sell Radarsat's information to other countries and expects to earn $50 million in sales.

Harvey André, the minister responsible for the Canadian Space Agency, is expected to give final approval to the Radarsat budget soon, Parashar says.

But while the federal government may be pouring millions of dollars into remote sensing technology, it is not spending enough on developing Canadian expertise in the use of the technology, says Hugh Gwyn, director of the Centre d'application et de recherche en télédétection (CARTEL) at the Université de Sherbrooke. He is also the president of the Association québécoise en télédétection and has lobbied Quebec City and Ottawa to fund more training in the field.

"We're spending a lot on hardware, but we need to spend more on post-secondary education (in remote sensing)," Gwyn says.

'If we go ahead with these space plans, my guess is we'll have ashortage of people.'

When fully implemented, the Radarsat could employ directly and indirectly as many as 500 people, Gwyn says. "If we go ahead with these space plans, my guess is that we'll have a shortage of people."

He says that Canada must already search overseas for experts in remote sensing.

Canada now produces more than 20 graduates at the masters level and about six at the doctoral level in geography, environmental science and electrical engineering with specialization in remote sensing, Gwyn says. He says that the Université de Sherbrooke has just received the Quebec government's approval to offer the first Ph.D. program specifically in remote sensing.

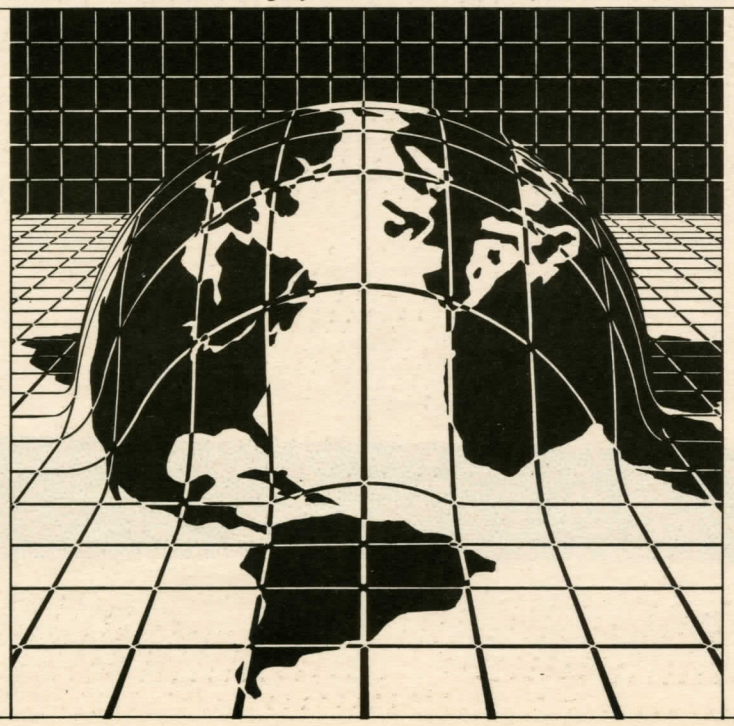
Gwyn hopes that the federal government will create a "centre of excellence" in remote sensing.

A Canada-wide network of research facilities called the Earth Resources Research and Applications Foundation is asking the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada for funding from its $250-million centres of excellence program, he says.

More than 100 other research centres are also competing for NSERC's funding.

Gwyn is confident, however, that remote sensing will be the major thrust in Canada's peaceful use of space.

— To appear in the spring issue of The Pugwash Papers.



One Afternoon in the Orinoco Basin

No eye can penetrate
the green dark but the mind
ventures, a road forms —
the road welcomes machines, fire,
and within hours, there is enough clearing
for a million human eyes
to see
nothing.

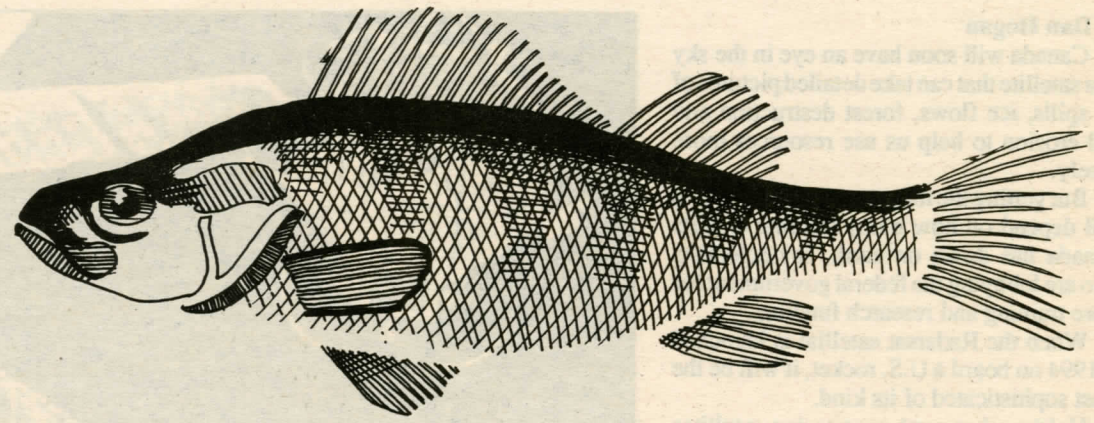
The vertical systems — an eon of adaptation —
are brought to earth, destroying
the "cancer cures", the "new crops", the "contra-
ceptives"; through the sudden light, they tumble
into a more permanent darkness. We mourn
but our loss: the collector's regret
at the trophy unknown, the mystery unsolved.
The phenomenon of life is
the ultimate abstraction.

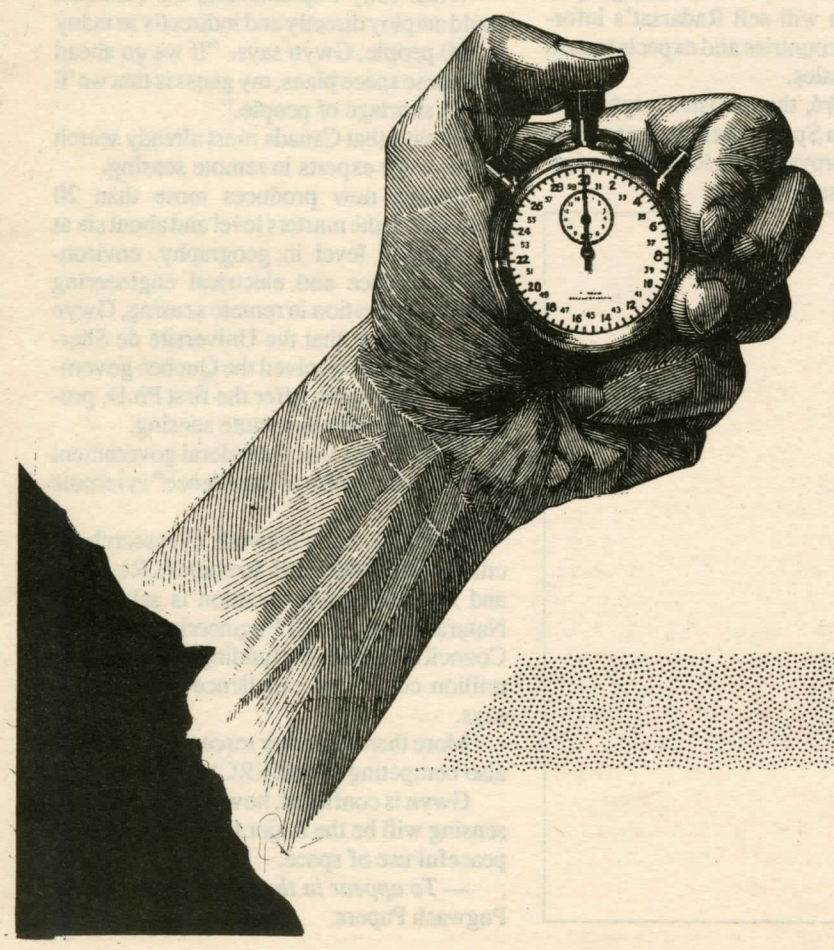
Through complexity, these lives coevolved.
Through stupidity, they cease existence,
rotting quickly under the blind eye of the sun,
glare unfiltered by the emerald canopy,
the anchored clouds. To dust
they return — fertilizer
for grazing meat.

In the held-breath silence of destruction's wake,
a voice emerges: a creature sings its own elegy:

My nose searches the air
for the scent-image of my mate
but she is covered in smoke. My cries
echo across the torn jungle. She is long gone —
a shard of the shattered jewel,
a thread from the tattered tapestry.
My seeds will die — lonely — within me.
Our children are sawdust. Our entire species
is me.

— *Louise Fabiani*





OH SO WELL . . .

Green leaves transformed into black,
Black as in despair, anguish . . . DEATH.
Soil, once brown and fertile and giving,
Now lays dormant, a sickly grey reminder of days gone by.
  Pull up a chair my son, adjust your mask just right,
  For all that remains now is time my son, so let us look back at
  our plight.
It was some time long ago, when the air still contained,
What now seems impossible to fathom, let along sustain.
They did warn us, a sort of prophecy of ill-will,
Of acidic rain, filthy waters, an ozone of decay.
However we weren't concerned, for as you see, the men in office
told us it wasn't the water that was going to kill us . . .
It was the commies.
So the stacks continued to pump out, what was hard enough to say,
The CO_2's, the PCB's . . . the sum of our dismay.
Then came the day, my mouth opened to yell,
The voice on the box, the reality of a world gone to hell.
  Take off your gloves my son, and give me your hands,
  Feel the flesh of my memories my son, for I am the death of
  your lands.
A rich man in a three piece suit, too greedy, things to swell,
There was a better time my son, I remember it oh so well.

— *Dean Milton*

Hundreds of Quebecers dedicate their lives

In search of their biological father

by Nalini Johnson

A month after Margaret's husband committed suicide, her son Donald confessed he was worried he too might one day kill himself. Donald thought he might inherit his father's chronic depression.

No longer able to hold back a 20-year-old secret, Margaret told Donald his father was not naturally related to him. She said he was conceived by artificial insemination with sperm provided by an anonymous donor. His father and she were unable to reproduce successfully, she added.

Margaret is one of thousands of parents who face the dilemma of whether or not to tell their children they have been conceived by artificial insemination by a donor (AID).

Adoption agency officials are also debating the possibility of disclosing sperm donors' identities.

Pierre Julien, director of Maison Retrouvailles, an adoption agency, wants the government to help AID children know their origins. He recently submitted a request to the Association Québequoise pour la fertilité. He wants the association to consider the feasibility of changing the policy on donor anonymity.

AID involves the injection into the uterus of semen obtained from a donor by masturbation. The man producing the semen is not the husband of the woman undergoing AID. He is unknown to her.

AID is an alternative to couples who can't reproduce because the husband is infertile or carries a genetic disorder which can be passed onto the child. Single women and lesbian couples also use this method to bear children without being involved with a man.

There are hundreds of AID children in Quebec alone who dedicate their lives to the search for their biological fathers, Julien said in an interview last week.

"I've always been against the anonymous aspect of sperm banks. When there's a black hole concerning the father, it bothers the child who wants to have a solid identity."

Julien says there is a direct link between the identity of children and knowledge of their family roots.

"Why do we have to hide the donor? His child will have 50 per cent of his genes. These have an important impact on who the child is," he says.

Compounding the problem are those sons and daughters who do not want to hurt their mothers and adoptive fathers and who will wait until the parents are dead to look for their real fathers.

AID families must help change their attitude by actively helping them find their biological fathers, Julien says.

"The social father must be made to feel it is not a betrayal for the child to want to see his biological father," he says.

Craig McDevitt, 22, was a potential sperm donor until early this month. He went to the Royal Victoria Hospital late last year. He was asked to give his name and address. Technicians there told him they would never reveal his name to AID applicants. He was also assured the doctors would not tell him whether they would eventually use his sperm.

But this was the least of his worries. He went through a lengthy screening process, for which he supplied two semen samples and blood samples. He also went through a medical exam and gave a detailed family history.

But his sperm did not react well to freezing and he was rejected.

McDevitt says he would still donate semen knowing his potential child could someday find him. In that case, he would meet his child but not to the point of having a close relationship.

"I would not be a parent. I'd only be his (or her) biological father and that's the extent of it," he says.

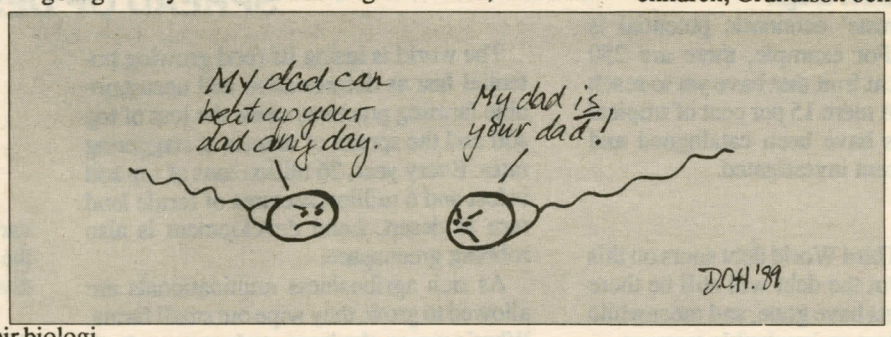
McDevitt adds he would want to be protected legally to prevent ever becoming economically liable for the child.

"I don't know of anybody donating sperm who would want to take on any responsibility for the child, financial or otherwise," he says.

Dr. Rosa Achilles, of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, agrees. Donor anonymity is essential to the success of the procedure, she said, during an international new reproductive technology (NRT) conference.

Like Julien, Achilles stressed the importance of the biological tie between parent and child. But she said the mother and donor require the social distance anonymity provides.

"Otherwise, why wouldn't a woman borrow a cup of sperm from her neighbor as we do the proverbial cup of sugar?...Neither the mothers, their partners, nor the donors have any interest in meeting each other," she said.



Anonymity lets the couple idealize and alienate the donor. Families feel threatened by an identifiable sperm donor. AID parents fear their child of insemination may abandon them in favor of the biological father.

On the other hand, Julien believes identifying the donors will weed out irresponsible parents. Only those who are willing to acknowledge their childrens' independence should have the responsibility to raise them properly and let them go when they wish to learn more about their genetic, social and religious origins.

But Dr. Paul Nathanson, who studies the religious aspects of NRT at the Centre for Medicine Law and Ethics at McGill, believes the issue is more complicated.

Revealing the identity of donors to AID children is problematic for the donor and provides very little benefits for the child, he said during a phone interview last week.

"If AID were not anonymous, there would have to be a legal way of knowing the donor would not be responsible for supporting a child they do not know," he said.

Nathanson believes "there may be fewer donors if they are forced to be identified."

The hospital should know the genetic, professional and religious identity of a donor for the benefit of the child, he says.

"But I'm not sure the child has a right to go further. Nor does the clinic have the right to keep surveillance on that person (the donor) for 30 or 40 years. And donors have to know if donating sperm means getting some money and forgetting about it or if it is something that's going to come back years later," Nathanson says.

People who donate do not intend entering a 30-year relationship with their potential children, he adds.

Bruce Grundison, 21, McDevitt's roommate, confirms this view. He is presently involved in a screening process. He may soon be allowed to give semen twice a week, getting $50 a shot, paid monthly.

He says he does not want his potential child to know he exists

Achilles said she met Stella while compiling data for a research paper. She interviewed many women who had gone through AID and found most mothers could not hide the truth for long. She said one mother told her son of his AID origin "after his father committed suicide, so he would not think he inherited depression."

The truth often comes out during family crises.

"It goes against fundamental rights to have a child and to take him off his real roots without telling him"

"He (the child) would be growing up in a different environment and I would not be part of it. I'd feel like an intruder," he says.

Grundison says he wants to give sperm to help infertile men who want to have children, and who are married and ready to have them.

"But I'm not committed to having a child. Giving my name to the family can only cause paternity problems," he says.

He adds the social father may want to dump responsibility for the child on Grundison.

Though most AID children do not know they were conceived differently from other children, Grundison believes it is confusing for the child to know he has two parents.

"Ethically, I know the children should know, but it is the responsibility and choice of the parents to tell them. Either way, I would never want my child to come to me later on," he says.

Julien wants to change this attitude. He thinks insemination children should have the power to look for their biological fathers. He acknowledges this implies the parents and doctors will be forced to tell them they are AID-conceived as soon as the children can understand the concept.

"It goes against fundamental rights to have a child and to take him off his real roots without telling him."

He says the child will eventually know the truth.

"(When this happens), the son will say—how come they didn't tell me 20 or 30 years ago? The child will lose confidence in his parents and the world," Julien says.

When parents wait too long for the truth to come out, the children often go into shock. This is common among adoptees and Julien says AID children suffer from similar experiences.

"What is worse than living without respect, freedom and truth? I cannot understand artificially constituted families when they decide to live a lie," he adds.

Achilles has spoken to many of these families. During the NRT conference she cited the story of a woman she called Stella. She said Stella did not tell a soul, not even her family, that her children were conceived through artificial insemination.

"I don't want the children to think their social father isn't their real father. When people comment they don't look like my husband, I ache inside. It's just something you have to live with," she told Achilles during a private interview.

Infertile men and their wives often hide themselves behind AID simply to fulfill the social expectation of having children, Achilles added.

Julien believes the government should crack down on parents who do not think of the real needs of AID children who live in a state of pain and resentment.

In 1985, Sweden became the only country in the world to come to grips with the identity of sperm donors. Julien wants Quebec to follow suit.

Donors can no longer remain unknown and hidden to Swedish insemination children. Hospitals and clinics will keep updated files on the donors for at least 70 years, according to Lena Jonsson, medical ethics officer for the government of Sweden.

"250 children are born in Sweden each year after AID," Jonsson said, during the NRT conference at Concordia.

Until the end of 1984, Sweden granted sperm donors the right to remain anonymous.

But in early 1985, the Swedish parliament passed a law which states that when the child has reached "enough maturity" he or she has the right to know who the biological father is, Jonsson said.

By law, AID children must know they are AID-conceived and only AID children have access to information about their biological fathers.

"Swedish law afforded no protection for insemination children. There were cases where the social father stopped wanting to be the father when the couple separated. The biological father was unknown and couldn't be found," Jonsson said.

People felt insemination children needed their biological fathers.

"Studies on adoption have shown adoptive children have become happier after abandoning the old tradition of secrecy and anonymity," Jonsson said.

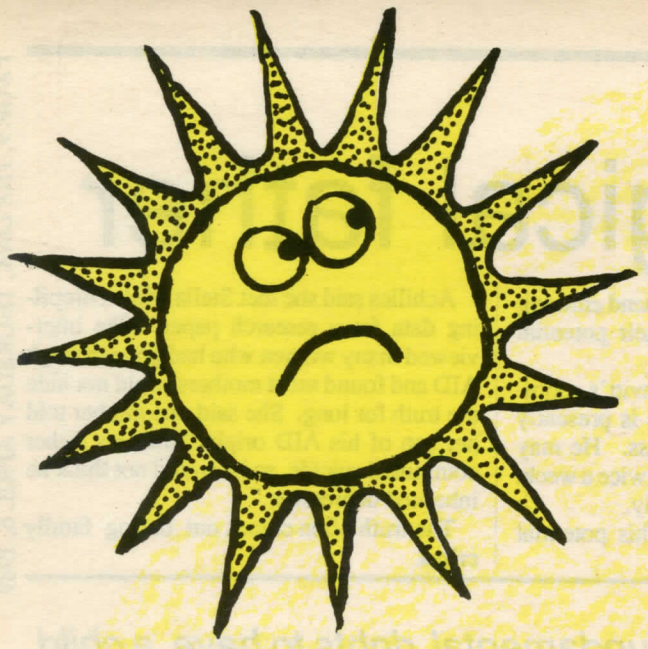
Since the law came into effect, controversy has died down. According to Jonsson, most doctors she interviewed said the law was not the death-blow they thought it would be.

In fact, they began to see benefits six months after the law came into effect. Before the law, donors had to be constantly recruited "either among the physician's personal contacts or by inquiries at workplaces or military units.

After the law, most of the major clinics got new donors without any active recruitment," Jonsson said.

Louise Mascotte, who is handling Julien's request at the association, says she agrees with Julien's viewpoint.

But "the issue is not our immediate priority at the moment." She could not specify when she would act on Julien's request.



THE 7 Blu

by Suzanne Diamond

The earth's life support systems are rapidly being cut off, and the signs are everywhere — tropical rainforest destruction, ozone layer depletion, soil erosion, industrial pollution, the Greenhouse Effect, hunger and poverty. Yet action to halt this environmental and human devastation is coming too slowly — not for lack of answers, but for lack of political will.

It is no longer a problem for 'someone else' to solve — each of us must do our part. Together, we are responsible for getting out of the mess we have made of our planet — a mess we abbreviate here as "The Seven Blunders of the World."

1 TROPICAL DEFORESTATION

Through the widespread destruction of Earth's tropical rainforests, we are losing our most valuable natural resource — plant and animal species. These forests are the richest storehouses of genetic diversity that we have. They contain 250 species per hectare compared to 10 in temperate forests.

If the present rate of destruction continues, these forests will disappear within the next 50 years. Right now, forests the size of England and Wales disappear every year.

In order to provide land for subsistence farming and to raise cattle for the developed world's fast food burger market, these forests are logged and burned.

The consequences of this destruction are far reaching. At least one species goes extinct every hour. Burning the forests also adds to the Greenhouse Effect.

With no forest cover, heavy rains wash off the top soil into rivers. This fouls drinking water for billions of people and suffocates coastal fisheries. Within a decade, the land becomes completely barren, unable to retain water and subject to flooding.

This damage costs billions of dollars in tropical countries. It also costs countless lives, as in last year's flooding in India and Bangladesh.

Tragically, many unique native cultures are also being wiped out along with these forests. With them go their knowledge of the many medicinal qualities of endangered tropical plants, some of which have given us several anti-cancer drugs.

The rainforests' economic potential is also wasted. For example, there are 250 kinds of tropical fruit that have yet to reach any markets. A mere 15 per cent of tropical plant varieties have been catalogued and only one per cent investigated.

Solution

Enormous Third World debt spurs on this destruction. But the debt will still be there when the forests have gone, and meanwhile we will have lost an invaluable treasure.

British environmentalist Norman Myers estimates that stopping this destruction will cost $1.3 billion a year for the next 10 years. By that time, such a project would be self-financing. The investment would finance tree farms, fuel wood lots, plantations of fast-growing trees, national parks, and irrigation of abandoned farms.

Increased paper recycling and curbed tropical timber consumption by developed nations will also be necessary.

2 OZONE DEPLETION

About 20 miles overhead is the only shield which protects life from the sun's deadly ultraviolet rays. Styrofoam, aerosols and refrigerants use chemicals (called chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs) which are destroying this protection. Continued production and use of these products is putting all life in jeopardy.

As this layer thins, it lets in rays that reduce crop yields, interfere with delicate life cycles of organisms, harm eyesight, damage the body's immune system and increase the incidence of skin cancer, which rose seven per cent in the U.S. 1987.

The damage we now see is from the chemicals we have released over the past 30 years. Every day we add more of these chemicals with a 100-year lifespan.

Solution

Zero emission levels for these chemicals should be enforced immediately. Safe replacements do exist. Depots for collecting CFC-laced materials must be set up so that these devastating chemicals can be properly destroyed.

3 SOIL EROSION AND SPREAD OF DESERTS

The world is losing its food growing potential fast as deforestation and unsustainable farming practices cause the loss of top soil and the spread of deserts at staggering rates. Every year, 26 billion tons of top soil is lost and 6 million hectares of fertile land turn to desert. Land development is also robbing greenspace.

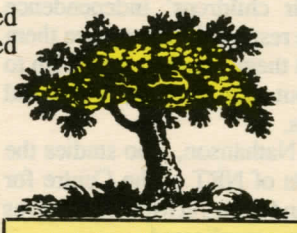
As rich agribusiness multinationals are allowed to grow, they wipe out small farms. What's worse, the large-scale monoculture practice these companies use reduces crop diversity. With less diversity, we have less chance of surviving what nature throws at us.

Seed varieties used to be freely available. New laws allowing genetically modified varieties to be patented leads to survival of the most profitable species, decreasing crop diversity.

Solution

Reforestation and practical, small-scale farming methods will be needed to stop soil erosion and desertification. Action to stop tropical deforestation will also combat this destruction. More fair land distribution would also help.

Plant diversity should be maintained by abandoning monoculture practices and stopping bills like C-107 in Canada which would otherwise allow the introduction of seed patents.



Smoke and exhaust have polluted our air and turned our rain into acid, resulting in hundreds of thousands of dead lakes world wide — 14,000 in Canada alone — and 31 million hectares of damaged forests in industrialized countries. Five million tonnes of airborne pollutants flow into the atmosphere every year. Lakes recover fast once the pollution is stopped, but many lakes have already past the point of no return.

Hazardous waste pollution has also reached crisis levels. An estimated 50 pesticides contaminate ground water in 32 American states. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has singled out 2,500 hazardous waste sites. A major PCB fire forced 3,500 residents of St-Basil-Le-Grand to evacuated their homes for two weeks last September.

Beaches from northern New Jersey to Long Island were closed last year because stomach linings, syringes, vials labelled "AIDS virus" and laboratory rats washed up on the shores.

Alaska's fragile environment was dealt a heavy blow when an Exxon tanker spilled 250,000 litres of oil into the ocean last month. Vancouver's shoreline and marine life were also recently coated with toxic oil.

Highly toxic pesticides (lindane) have been seeping into the English Channel.

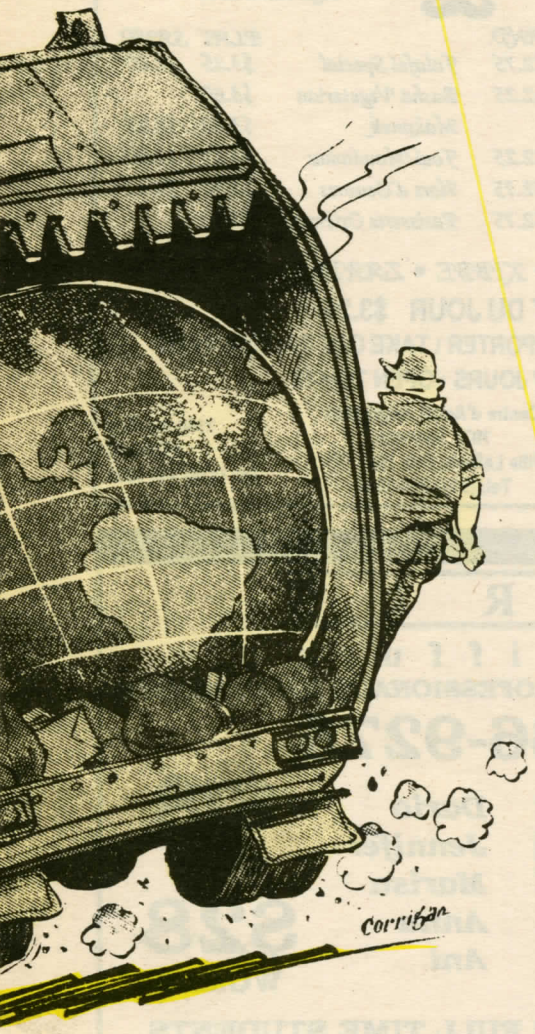
Domestic waste has also gotten out of control. Most cities in the world have no sewage treatment facilities. Within five years, 95 per cent of all U.S. and Canadian communities will run out of space to put their garbage.

4 INDUSTRIAL POLLUTI

Solution

Policy changes at top levels of government must be drawn up to protect the biosphere. Laws penalizing polluters must be

nders of the World



5 THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has increased by 30 per cent in the past 150 years because of the relentless flow of smoke and chemicals into our atmosphere. This is trapping heat in the atmosphere which would otherwise escape. The five hottest years on record have occured since 1980.The dramatic effects of this global warming include: shifts in agriculturally productive areas, disrupting food productivity; rising ocean levels, flooding populated coastal areas; violent weather extremes; more forest fires; and loss of arable land due to desert expansion.

The burning of tropical rainforests and the loss of phytoplankton in the oceans due to pollution are diminishing our capacity to reabsorb carbon in the environment. Burning of brazilian rainforest now contributes about 20 per cent of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere.

Solution

Reforestation programs must be started to counter carbon dioxide buildup. Paper recycling programs and lifting the burden of Third World debt can help reduce deforestation. Burning of carbon-based products and fuels must be cut — this means increasing energy efficiency and exploiting alternative energy sources. Pollution of the oceans must stop in order to protect phytoplankton. Educational programs stressing the importance of cutting carbon dioxide and CFC emissions must be set up.

ON

strengthen and more pollution monitoring crews put into action.

Auto-emission inspections programs must be enforced.

Use of only non-toxic chemicals and safe pesticides must be enforced. More rapidly degrading plastics must be used. Recycling programs must be started — this means compartmentalized garbage cans. Methods for the safe disposal of radioactive and other highly toxic wastes must be researched. Toxic chemicals must also be filtered from water. Sewage treatment technologies must be upgraded and implemented and waste cleanup programs started.

Energy efficiency must be increased. Alternative energy sources (such as solar and wind) must be researched and financed; all funding for this critical area was cut by the Canadian government in the past week...

6 HUNGER AND POVERTY

With more than five billion people on the planet today, poverty and malnutrition are rampant and growing in all parts of the world. Each day, 35,000 people — 18 million a year — die of hunger and related diseases. Three quarters of these people are under the age of five. That is equivalent to a jumbo jet carrying 260 children crashing every 15 minutes. About one out of seven people go to bed go to bed hungry every night. In the United States, 32 million people live below the poverty line. According to the Worldwatch Institute, another drought next year will mean widespread famine.

Solution

The international Hunger Project group estimates it would cost only $14 billion a year for the next 13 years to end hunger in the world by the year 2000. That's what the world spends on arms every week and on cigarettes every month.

This money could give small loans ($50 to $100) to the poor. These loans have excellent pay-back rates and would go directly to the people who need it the most, unlike foreign aid projects which often do not trickle down to the poor. Jobs could be created to reclaim lands lost due to bad farming practices and deforestation.

7 MIXED-UP PRIORITIES

Despite all these cataclysmic truths, $1 trillion dollars were spent on military worldwide in 1987. At the same time, Third World debt has reached $1.3 trillion while billions of people are suffering from malnutrition and lack of clean drinking water, sanitation, basic health care and education. Military spending perpetuates gross violation of human rights, environmental destruction, the spread of poverty, deterioration of social programs and the threat of nuclear holocaust.

More critically, war-oriented tasks take our time, money and energy away from the more constructive and essential work needed to solve global problems.

Because these problems affect everyone, we must work together. For instance, when people are hungry they are compelled to use up what resources they have, most times causing irreparable damage to the land and forests they mean only to subsist off of, and then they move on. In many countries where the wealth and good agricultural lands are owned by an elite few, the forests and productivity of marginal lands have disappeared because of this destruction.

The environment is our primary resource base. When we degrade it, we are all the poorer for it because we are all in greater jeopardy of becoming hungry.

Solution

Third World debt is the crux of the problem. It cannot go on without total destruction of the environment. Susan George, author of A Fate Worse Than Debt, proposes exchanging debt for continued productivity of the land. The money owed would go back into projects to help countries reach their potential on a sustainable basis. This strategy would help save the environment and end hunger in these countries.

Because of the impending food shortage, we will have to use our resources more wisely. For example, a meat diet is enormously wasteful. It takes 21 pounds of grain to produce one pound of beef.

On the other hand, a vegetarian diet is a more efficient use of resource and avoids the antibiotics and preservatives found in meat. Vegetarians also suffer a considerably lower rate of heart and many other major diseases. The key to fighting cancer and other diseases lies in re-establishing a natural diet, ridding our environment of toxins we have flushed into it and recognizing that the causes of ill health are mostly stress related.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

While global problems require global solutions, we as individuals can make a difference. We can help save the environment by not buying styrofoam products or aerosols containing CFCs, disposable products, ivory, beef and anything developed with unnecessary animal testing. We can also conserve food, water and energy and not burning things unnecessarily.

Perhaps the most important action is to write letters to government officials demanding more safe disposal of toxic wastes. We can also demand more recycling projects and sewage treatment plants. Finally, we can remind people that whatever they do, or not do, has a direct effect on the state of the world.

"The deterioration of our world can be prevented by a simple desicion on the part of the people — people who push and prod governments into taking action on behalf of everyone... Shall we not look forward to the next century when people will say, "those folks of the late 20th century, how they responded to the crisis when they learned what was happening to their world. They rose to the challenge so splendidly, they became giants of the human condition."

Norman Myers, 1986
(author of *Gaia: An Atlas of Planet Management*)

This article was adapted from Do You Know The Seven Blunders of the World? — a pamphlet produced by the Society in Support of Planet Management, based in Montreal, Quebec. and will be distributed through Earth Concerts being planned for 1989.

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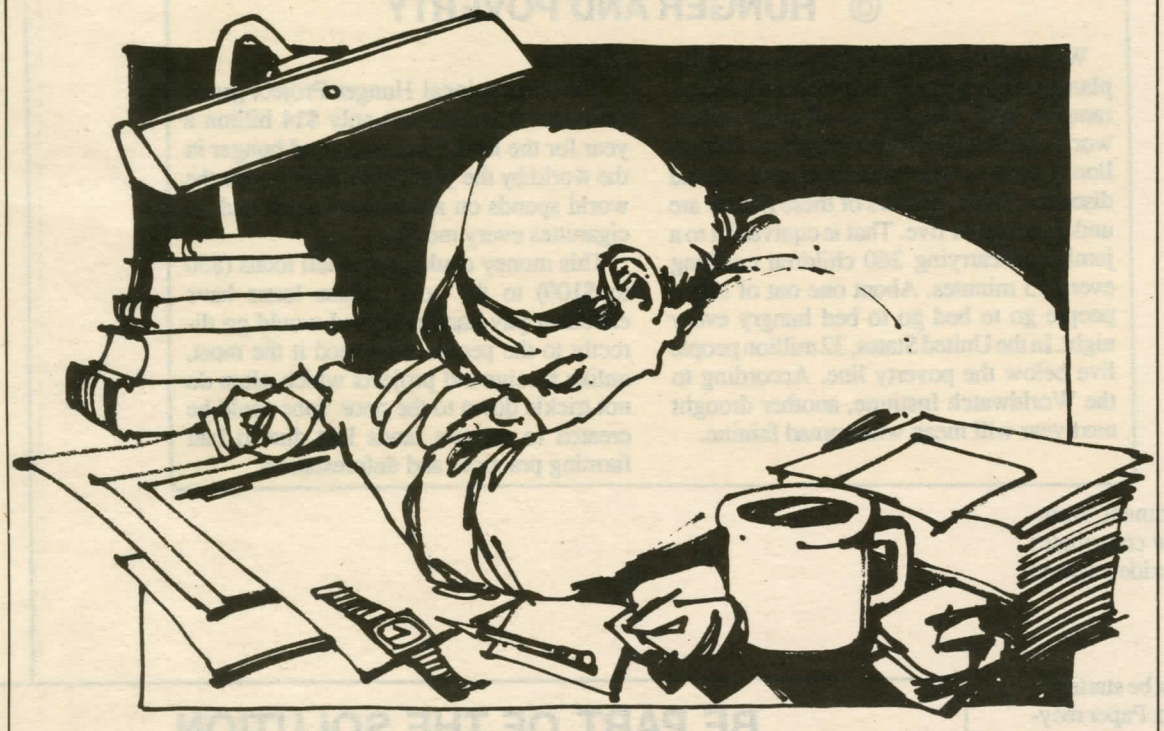

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Toxic trash ash

The dirt and gravel road leads to a vast expanse of snow covered by small bare shrubs and bushes. Tires and bits of metal lie on the ground. The air has a pungent smell of rotten eggs and leaded gasoline.

Half an hour east from downtown Montreal, the Riviere-des-Prairies landfill site is where ashes from the city's most infamous incinerator are buried.

by Wayne Hiltz

Each year, about 85,000 metric tonnes of ashes are carried from the Des Carrieres incinerator in the Plateau Mt. Royal area to the landfill where it is placed between layers of waste and used as cover material.

Ash residue is a little-known by-product of municipal waste incinerators. Incinerators don't eliminate the garbage fed into them totally. They merely reduce its volume by 10 per cent and weight by 30 per cent.

In recent years, some environmentalists have claimed that the remaining ash is toxic and poses a danger to the environment and public health.

The Des Carrieres incinerator has burned about 300,000 metric tonnes of waste per year since it began operating in 1970. Incinerators burn everything our society indiscriminately throws out. The by-products, either ash or smokestack emissions reflect what we feed into it — paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, metals, or organic wastes.

The ash by-product can become toxic in two ways. It is a result either of the mixing and combustion of two materials which are harmless when separate or it is a result of chemical elements which are toxic by nature.

When paper and/or cardboard is mixed with plastics, this can produce dioxins and furans. These are chlorinated organic compounds produced in the furnace at cool spots where optimal combustion does not occur.

Dioxins have been clearly shown by many clinical studies to be highly toxic and carcinogenic. A Canadian environmental task force concluded in 1983 that the burning of municipal garbage is the principal source of dioxins in our environment.

Lead, cadmium, and mercury are basic chemical elements which are toxic by nature when exposed to humans and animal and aquatic life. They cannot therefore be destroyed by incineration and must come out in either the smokestack emissions or the ash residues. Since these metals are not destroyed while other trash components are, the burning actually concentrates them in the ash. Even in very small doses they can serious damage to the nervous system, lungs and kidneys.

A major U.S. study of the test data on the incinerator ash revealed last year showed the ash was above acceptable norms in many cases. The Environmental Defense Fund, a Washington-based lobby and research group, examined data from 46 incinerators from tests made during the last seven years.

Samples of fly ash — the tiny airborne particles found in the combustion chamber — exceeded standards for lead 91 per cent of the time.

For bottom ash — the large chunks of unburned material found at the bottom of the burning chamber's grates — the figure is 36 per cent. And for the combined ash, it is 38 per cent.

Concern about the ash's possible toxic qualities has not reached Montreal's city hall. There has been no known official test of the ash from the Des Carrieres incinerator.

The Concordia chapter of the Quebec Public Interest Research Group (Q-PIRG) forced the issue in early February when it invited Dr Paul Connett — a prominent American expert and critic of incinerators who teaches environmental chemistry at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York — to visit the Des Carrieres plant.

With the permission of incinerator superintendent Henri Bonneilh, Connett obtained two samples of ash that were tested the samples at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY where he teaches chemistry.

Connett was surprised the test results for lead were inconclusive. One sample was slightly above and another slightly below the U.S.- accepted norms of five parts per million (ppm).

"This is lower than many combined ash samples registered in the United States," he said.

But Connett warned against feeling complacent. Low lead levels in the ash only mean toxic chemicals are not stopped by control devices meant to capture fine fly ash particles. Instead, he said, they escape through the stacks into the atmosphere.

"There is an inverse relationship. The better you get with your devices, the more toxic material you'll get in your ash," he said.

The pollutants, in other words, have to go somewhere either in the ash or up the smokestacks.

Bonneilh was quite pleased about the test results but considerably less happy about Connett's conclusion.

"From their own opinions and tests we meet the norm for lead which is quite difficult to meet. This is extraordinary," said Bonneilh.

Bonneilh referred to the clean bill of health given to Montreal's incinerator by Environment Canada investigators in 1983. They tested the smokestack emissions and the ash for traces of dioxins and furans.

But he did not mention that higher levels of these toxins were found in the earlier testing period while lower acceptable levels were traced in the later.

"After the 1983 tests, environmentalists then said "if it's not in the stacks, it's in the ash." They have ash samples and they don't find toxins in it. Now they say it's not in the ash, it's in the stacks."

Connett said a lot more tests are necessary to prove categorically one way or the other about the ash's toxicity.

This question may have to be settled on a national level. The Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers released a report on incinerator emissions last October.

Its main recommendation concerning ash was that its chemical makeup "must be determined since the ash discharged from an incinerator could be dangerous and must be managed in an appropriate manner."

Jean Lavergne, a Quebec Environment official and member of the Council's waste management committee, said the Council recommends a prudent approach.

An Environment Canada group in Burlington, Ontario is currently carrying out studies on the ash, he said. "When they are finished we will be in a position to adopt an ash disposal strategy."

He did not know when this study would be finished, adding that similar U.S. research on this question would also help them.

Present regulations call for its treatment and disposal as solid, not hazardous, waste. No special cautionary measures are taken for the ash. It is more or less treated like ordinary garbage.

Japan, for example, places the ash in concrete-lined landfills with a filtration system for the leachate runoff.

Connett said the fly ash should be treated as hazardous waste at a special treatment plant and the bottom ash be tested regularly and placed in controlled landfills.

A lot of efforts and money to improve control equipment and to better handle the ash is going in the wrong direction of burning, or destroying, our finite resources.

"We should be putting that same effort into the right solution, which is recycling, and begin to move towards a sustainable society which we can pass on to future generations. We can't continue to run a throwaway society on a finite planet."

Montreal's Des Carrieres incinerator has burned about 300,000 metric tonnes of waste per year since it began operating in 1970. Incinerators burn everything our society indiscriminately throws out. The by products, either ash or smokestack emissions, reflect what we feed into it – cardboard, glass, plastics, metals, or organic wastes.

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by Joyce Lombardi
reprinted from the McGill Daily

The most dangerous dioxin — 2,3,7,8 tetrachlorobenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) — is the most toxic synthetic chemical known. It was a component in Agent Orange, the deadly defoliant used in Vietnam.

The U.S. government launched a study into the pulp and paper mills in Maine, and Canada followed suit. In September 1987 the Canadian government announced TCDD was present not only in the byproducts of paper mills, but in consumer products as well.

Dioxins are extremely difficult to regulate because of their penetration in our created environment. Incinerator fly ash, pesticides, wood preserver, burning wood and exhaust fumes are all sources of dioxins.

"Dioxins are in the food chain," says Diane Goulet, Quebec coordinator for Greenpeace's pulp and paper campaign. "They linger in the soil, in the rivers, and get into any fatty substance that comes along. They're everywhere."

"If you wipe a baby's bottom with a white tissue dipped in cream, then put it on a white diaper, you've created a perfect environment for dioxins to transfer into the human body"

Consumers have always been told not to worry because very little, if any, dioxin could migrate from paper products into the human body. But the recent discovery of TCDD in milk and cream packaged in cardboard has raised consumer and regulating agency concerns.

Because dioxins are attracted to fat, they are more likely wash their way into milk than stay in paper boxes — fats lure dioxins out of paper products.

"If you wipe a baby's bottom with a white tissue dipped in cream, then put on a white diaper, you've created a perfect environment for dioxins to transfer into the human body," Goulet says.

WHITE TRASH

"I'm worried," University of Guelph biologist John Sprague says.

"The problem is they only know about 30 per cent of what they (paper mills) are dumping into the rivers. The other 70 per cent, they have no idea about. The whole process has to stop."

Greenpeace advocates switching to unbleached paper products.

"Why do we need white toilet paper and white diapers? After you use use it, it's brown anyway," said Goulet. "Unbleached products are safer, cheaper and cleaner."

European companies have switched to unbleached products and have launched a successful advertising campaign to convince consumers that unbleached is better.

Industry and government officials in North America have started a flurry of research to reduce dioxins in the enviornment. Still, many officials claim dioxins do not pose a threat.

"You're more likely to die crossing a street than from the effects of dioxins," says Peter Wrist, president of the Pulp and Paper Research Institute Canada (PAPRICAN).

Wrist says that several of Canada's 47 pulp and paper mills have already adopted measures to change their bleaching processes, but says none is ready to switch to unbleached paper.

"Advertising looks worse on unbleached paper, and there is also a slight odour to the paper that would turn consumers off," he adds. "The trend in Europe is a fad."

Greenpeaces disagrees.

"When people realize that whiter is not cleaner, that it is potentially dangerous, they'll demand unbleached products," Goulet says.

The North American pulp and paper industry sees no reason to abandon the bleaching process. Researchers have discovered several ways of reducing dioxins, mostly by reducing the amount of chlorine in the initial stages of the bleaching process. Dioxins and furans are formed when chlorine combines with precursor compounds which occur naturally in wood.

HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH

Industry officials claim that although dioxins may have always been present, instruments sensitive enough to detect them have not been available until now.

"We talking neglible amounts," Wrist says. "To give you some idea, a part per trillion (ppt) is like one second in 32,000 years and a part per quadrillion is like the area of a dollar bill compared to the area of Canada," he says. No matter how minute the quantities of dioxins are, the question of how much is too much remains.

Health and Welfare Canada (HWC) changed their regulations on dioxins in food this year.

"The only regulations of dioxin in food was a 20 ppt maximum in fish. Now we have to take into account babies, whose sole diet may consist of milk and whose body weight is certainly less than an adult's," HWC official Diane Kirkpatrick says.

The tolerable daily intake level is set at one tenth of a picogram per kilogram of bodyweight.

Environmentalists say the regulations are unrealistic.

"There are no safe levels," says Goulet. "No one knows what the long term effects are in humans."

The molecular structure of dioxins and furans cause them to accumulate in the fatty tissue of the body for at least 14 years. Scientists admit permanent physical side effects, beyond severe acne, have yet to determined.

"Why do we need white toilet paper and white diapers? After you use it, it 's brown anyway. Unbleached producys are safer, cheaper and cleaner."

Wrist says that follow-up studies of residents in areas of industrial accidents, such as Italy in 1976, and monitoring of Vietnam vets have shown no abnormal cancer rate or birth defects.

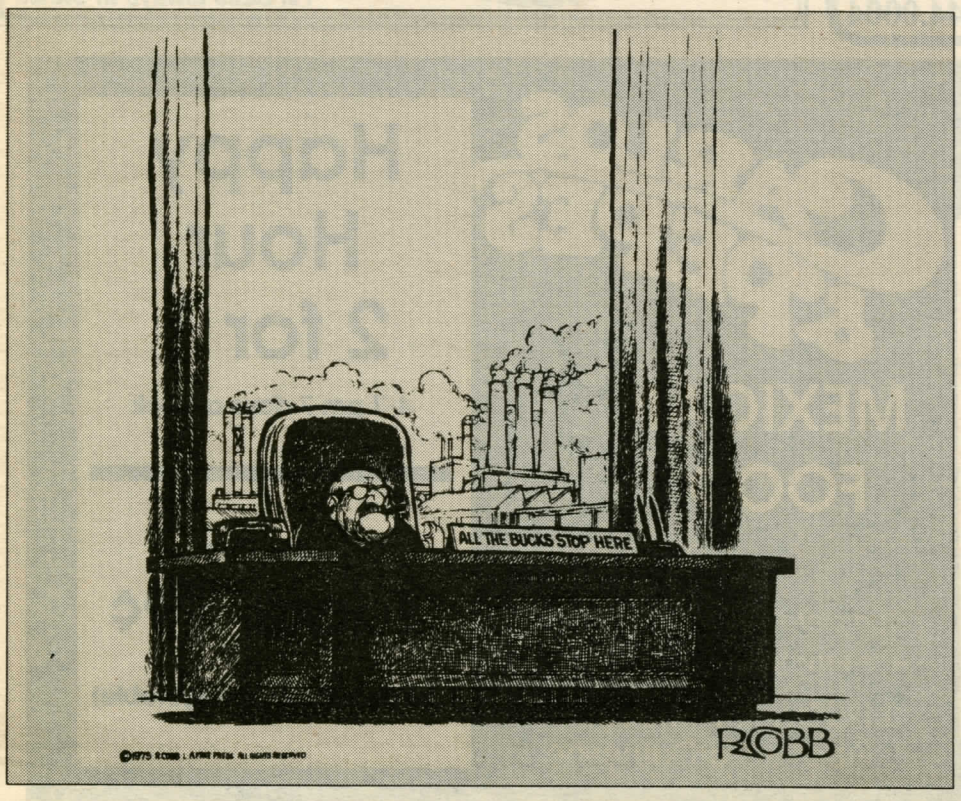
But the studies cover only 20 years, equivalent to studying infants to determine the effects of old age.

Dioxins and furans cause cancer in rodents, but harmful doses cannot be accurately pinpointed.

HWC biologist Jake Ryan says a dose that would kill one hamster would kill 5000 guinea pigs. Other mammals usually fall between the two extremes.

"Our regulations are based on levels dangerous to rats. But with the amount of difference between species, those figures are probably even more risky," says Ellen Silberg of the U.S. Environmental Defence Fund.

Refined whites that are brighter than bright should go the way of Wonder Bread, Kraft Dinner, and Cottonelle — discarded for the benefits of oat bran, green linguini and grey paper.



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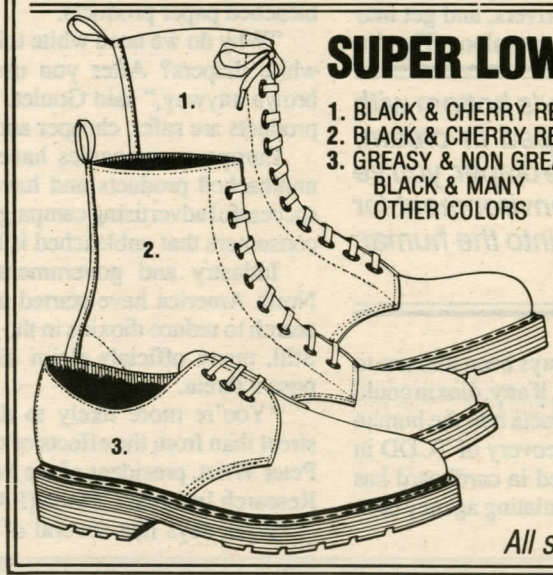

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Stopping the Coming Ice Age

by Harriett Fels

With all the recent talk of global warming, climatic collapse and forest death, there is almost no one left who believes that the sun will always shine in the sky, that the trees will always return in the spring and that the basic parameters of life will automatically remain the same, year after year.

In the summer of 1988, the arrival of the Greenhouse Effect was officially declared. An international conference in Toronto — The Changing Atmosphere — offered the previously unheard-of statement that indeed climate can change radically, not only in increments.

Although the latest scientific projections tell us that a warming trend will increase steadily, causing more crop failure and the possible flooding of coastal cities, most of us remain quite numb and passive, wondering what to do next. Furthermore, this theory of a gradual warming trend, persisting for decades, is perhaps inadequate in explaining exactly what is going on with our climate.

There is, in fact, another theory concerning the probable course that the Greenhouse Effect will take which is presented in the video by Larry Ephron, called *Stopping the Coming Ice Age* This theory necessitates immediate action by everyone on the planet, for it demonstrates very clearly the scenario that the greenhouse gases are not triggering a global warming but the next ice age, possibly by as early as the year 1995.

More than 50 years ago, some scientists began to write about the depletion of minerals in the soil and how this was contributing to crop failure, forest decline and the use of chemical fertilizers as the only way to make agriculture efficient.

These scientists spoke out against chemicals, insisting that they would only aggravate the existing depletion of soil minerals, caused by thousands of years of leaching and erosion. They suggested that remineralizing the soil with ground-up rock powder would nourish the soil and regenerate all plant life on it. Unfortunately, it was the chemical bandwagon that carried the day.

Stopping the Coming Ice Age explains how the cycle into the next ice age out of our present warm inter-glacial period is about to begin again, ahead of schedule. It will be accelerated by the excessive demineralization of the soil through chemical agriculture and the massive carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas buildup in the atmosphere.

Scientists have shown that before the start of the last ice age and the one before that, there were certain patterns that emerged, patterns that are very obvious today There are more earthquakes now, more tornados, more droughts and cold periods, more forest fires and a predominance of tree species that thrive on acidic, mineral-deficient soil than there were during any initial phases of a warm interglacial period.

Because the soil is demineralized, trees are less vital, more susceptible to disease and insects, and are less able to do their job of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. In addition, because they are weaker, the trees tend to die, dry up faster, and catch fire more easily, thus contributing more carbon dioxide to the total accumulation.

Because we are cutting down the trees at a feverish pace and continuing to pollute the atmosphere with vast amounts of greenhouse gases (including methane from incinerating our food wastes and producing huge quantities of animal waste products because of the millions of cows we insist on raising as food, a very inefficient source of nutrition), we might soon find ourselves in an irreversible march toward another ice age.

Stopping the Coming Ice Age is very positive, showing how we can reverse this cycle of ice ages, not only this time but perhaps forever.

One of the things we must do immediately is stop cutting down trees and plant millions of new ones, especially fast-growing ones. However, even this measure will be futile if we don't do the work of the glaciers ourselves, and that is remineralize the soil.

The video shows in a very inspring way how individuals all over the world are reversing the wheel of global destruction by rejuvenating their forests, farms and fields with finely ground-up rock dust.

It suggests that this global crisis is a golden opportunity for humanity, for by slowing down our "energy-guzzling, fast pace of living," we might find who we are and why we are here. By discovering the path toward a sustainable future, we could fulfill the age-old dream of peace and harmoney on earth.

Although the video contains very substantial scientific documentation for the theory of an imminent ice age, it also holds out the very strong possibility of an abundant human future. The choice is ours.

Stopping the Coming Ice Age will be presented by the ecological group STOP in the Hall Building, April 18, 7:30 pm, room 415. For further information, call 277-2796.

Why Israel blooms

by Michael Lipman

The state of Israel is a tiny strip of land. It has few natural resources and a growing population. This situation dictates a need for maximizing the level of efficiency of the scarce resources of the region.

The Middle East is not known for its lush tropical rain forests but rather for heat, desert barren wasteland and oil.

Israel does not have any economically usable oil reserves. Instead, it has sunlight — 300 days a year. Use of solar power is extensive for heating water, so much so that solar heat collectors can be seen on many rooftops.

The Israeli Weizman Institute is one of the leading scientific research centres in the world when it comes to maximizing the use of many alternative energy resources.

Their work on agricultural techniques, specializing in creating drought resistant crops, are studied by people from many developing nations.

Israel has several small fertile regions, and plenty of semi-arid and arid land. This makes it necessary to maximize the efficiency with which water is consumed.

Israel gets most of its water from Lake Kinneret in the Galilee. It is carried south by the river. Some of the water empties into the Dead Sea, and some is channeled further south via a pipeline to provide water to the Negev region.

Israel applies modern and updated versions of ancient water collection techniques. Rainwater is collected in large cisterns during the rainy winter months, and stored for use during the long hot and dry summer.

Israel has also been a longtime user of cloud seeding in order to increase the amount of rainfall during the winter months. They are able to increase rainfall by 10 to 15 percent and in some instances 25 per cent.

Israeli scientists discovered that partially desalinated sea water is useable for irrigation, so large desalination plants were constructed to convert sea water into a useable resource.

Although Israel has made advances in making more water and existing water more useable; there is still a scarce supply of it, so Israel pioneered the technique of drop irrigation.

Little droplets of water are released in to the soil along the ground next to the stem ot trunk of each plant. Little water is wasted this way and crop yields are increased.

In another technique, plants are grown under a plastic sheet and the water vapour released by the plants condenses on the plastic sheet instead of evaporating.

These advances in irrigation techniques along with the desalination of sea water and cloud seeding have made it possible to make the desert bloom.

Israel tries to encourage the recirculation of cooling water in industry, along with the use of salt water for cooling wherever possible.

Israel is also focussing a great deal of attention on water reclamation. Sewer water can be reclaimed for use in industry and agriculture. If sewage is not dumped into the sea, but instead treated and purified, the water can be consumed again.

There are several benefits to doing this. Beaches will be cleaner, and compost plants can gain some organic material for the production of fertilizer. Fertilizer is a very important tool in reclaiming desert soil and making it fertile enough for agricultural purposes.

Over the centuries, Israel was conquered by one invading army after another. The invasions destroyed and burnt much of the land and also exploited natural resources. Over time, environmental looting stripped much of the terrain of its trees, plants and animals.

The Jewish National Fund is an organisation which plays a key role in restoring the country's once rich natural beauty. They are involved in piping irrigation and drinking water to the Negev. Over the years, it has planted in excess of 150,000 trees. They play a paramount role in the ecological development and preservation of Israel.

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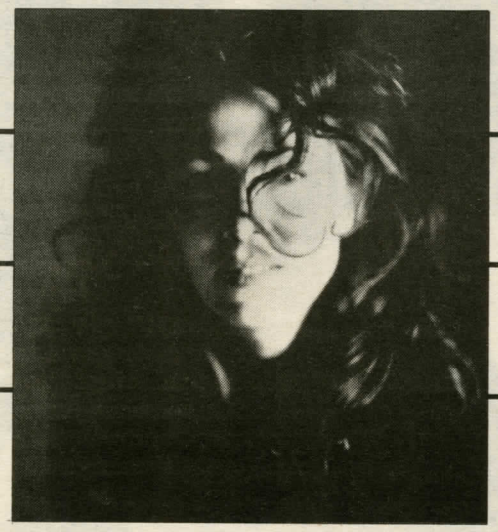

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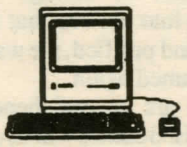

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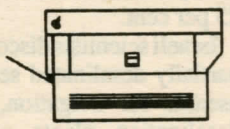

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Voyageur

Modern Totem Poles

by Laurel Stevens

Entering Hannah Franklin's studio, the first thing to attract one's attention is a cluster of human figures with lifelike gazes, each about three feet high, glimmering dully in the light from the window.

Upon closer examination, the figures turn out to be black and white photographic images, encapsuled in plastic resin. There's an almost haunting effect as you look into the trusting gaze of Chantal, a seventeen year old ballerina for whom it appears time has been frozen. Chantal and her group are part of an upcoming exhibition of sculpture by artist Hannah Franklin at the Centre des Arts Contemporaines.

I had the opportunity recently to view them in their natural habitat, the studio where they were created. It was as I wandered through the sculptures that I realized the limitations of description, and that the material is such that even the camera cannot fully convey or do justice to the nature of the sculptures. These pieces are meant to be seen in person.

In addition to the pieces already mentioned, the exhibition also includes a series of large columns, symbols of antiquity, superimposed with images of modern day life — contemporary fashion magazine figures and enlarged classified newspaper advertisements.

Making my way through these "modern-day totem poles," as Franklin describes them, I came across pieces I had not previously noticed — several ornate boxes resembling nothing so much as treasure chests. Looking down on the chests, my gaze was transfixed by an almost sensuous bubble of plastic resin which appeared freshly made, but was actually long dried and hardened. The bubble of resin contains, once again, an image of contemporary life.

The treasure these chests preserve is the elusive present moment. Franklin has attempted to capture the essence of humanity at selected moments and freeze it, unchanged and unchanging. Her work also emphasizes the transience of youth, of time passing by, and the viewer realizes with a twinge of discomfort as he or she looks at the silent, encased figures, that in the real world, time, and life, has pushed relentlessly on.

The young ballerina's expression radiates the cheerfulness and optimism of youth while the classified advertisements timelessly announce births, deaths, and apartments for rent. Life is a series of fleeting moments whose meanings are elusive when reflected upon with memories tainted with subjectivity as ours so often are.

Franklin has experimented with great innovation in her latest works with the use of plastic resin, which is prevalent in many of her pieces. The resin, as the artist begins to work, is thick and transparent, but as work on the sculpture progresses, it assumes varied characteristics of its own. The end result is an interesting combination of transparent and opaque, rough and smooth, that sometimes creates the impression of ice crystals, adding to the effect of humanity preserved. It is an interesting twist that even the preserving agent, the resin, is not completely capable of trapping a moment in time — by assuming its own characteristics it influences, and in some of the sculptures, distorts perception, lending room for a multitude of interpretations beyond the obvious.

It is difficult not to be fascinated as you observe aspects of humanity, silently sealed, preserved for the future. Or as Franklin describes it, "A juxtaposition of when the world was younger and today. A passage of Time, People and Art."

Hannah Franklin's exhibition "Time Passes" at the Centre des Arts Contemporaines du Quebec, 4247 St. Dominique (corner Rachel). 842-4300. Mon.-Thurs. 10 am - 6 pm; Fri. 10 am - 1 pm

photo by Manos Trogadis

One of Hannah Franklin's sculptures to be exhibited soon.

Painting mysteries at PED

by James DiSalvio

In a room with two dozen painters creating simultaneously, spectators eventually get lost in a world that challenges them and brings out their own creative side.

Peinture En Direct at Foufounes has acted as a launching ground for many local artists — including Zilon and Daigneault — in Montreal's accelerating underground art scene. It is appealing for the audience because of the mystery of what lies ahead.

Last Sunday, Foufounes began filling up around 10pm as the artists, collectors and spectators pondered how this PED would turn out.

A verbal starter gun fired, in the form of a welcoming speech, and the evening got underway. At that point a vast array of colour and style burst out of each artist carrying to canvas a different vision they had to get across in just over an hour. As a spectator the best bet was to wander the floor and fix yourself on anything that grabed you:

Zoltan from Brussels caught many people's curiosity as he started doing small brush strokes on old issues of "Voir" magazine. What started off looking like a Keith Herring inspired work, turned out to be a great display of colourful abstraction.

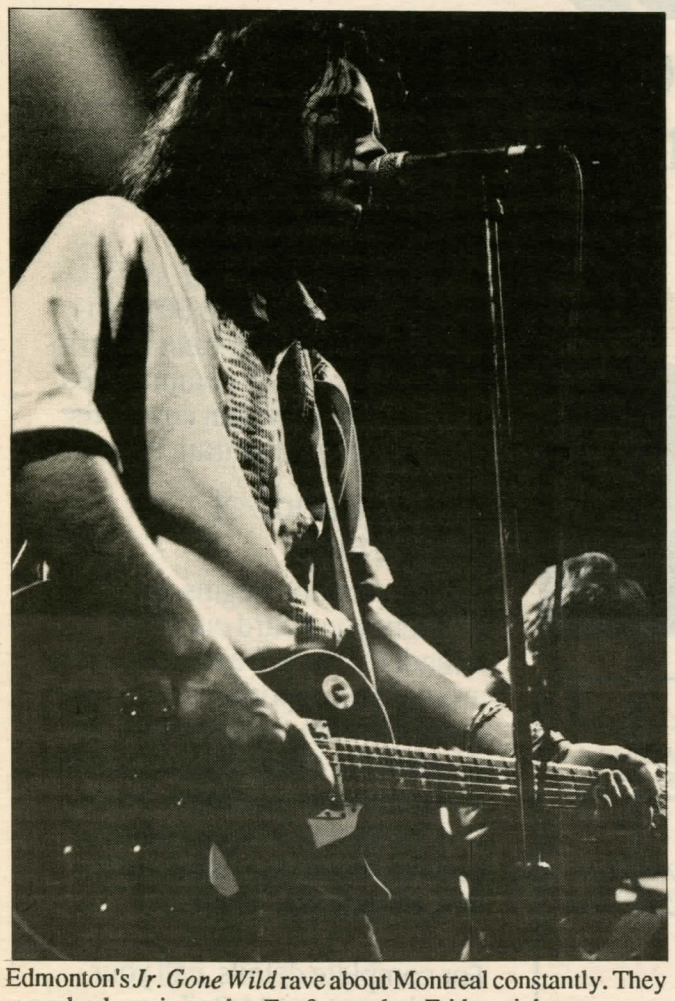
Dave Sapin had his crowd focused on fluorescent surreal reptiles, worms and horses (I think) mixed with an interesting barbed wire effect.

Not everyone used canvas. Christian Dion used a skeletal faced chrome plate for his. His painting has a line that reads "Et Je Dansais."

The side of a cardboard box was all Jane Hammond needed. Benoit Lefebvre's piece using a styrofoam frame brushed with purple hues stuck out in more ways than one.

All the while, Bob Desautels painted quietly in his corner, creating what looked like a grey dream covering a subtle dark forest. That's how I saw it, but there probably was a catalogue of perceptions that differed. Desautels (who sometimes co-paints with Gigi Perron and Michel Daigneault as a group called PDG), believes the quality of the work is augmenting with each new show. He places more importance on the creative aspect of it than the auction that follows.

With the help of Charlie Papazoff's live music — and the artists of course — everyone was dancing with him.



Edmonton's *Jr. Gone Wild* rave about Montreal constantly. They came back again to play Foufounes last Friday night.

The Legendary Pink Dots will be playing this Sunday, April 9, 9pm at Les Foufounes Electriques (87 Ste. Catherine E, 845-5484). Born in 1980, they have undergone many significant changes. This tour's line-up consists of EdwardKa-spel (The Prophet) on vocals, keyboards, and electronics; Phil Harmonics (The Silverman) on synthesizers and electronics; and Niels Van Hoorn doing various things. Tickets: $10 (advance), $12 (door).

FRINGE ARTS

Starting today - another exhibition at the Women's Centre: Sara Morley's works on paper entitled *A Woman's Nightmare* (2020 Mackay, 848-7431) From today until June.

They say- this is it, McGill ends the year with a ska, reggae and comedy with Kali & Dub, Jah Cutta & Determination and more! (University Centre, 3480 McTavish, 398-6778)Friday, April 7, 8pm. $4

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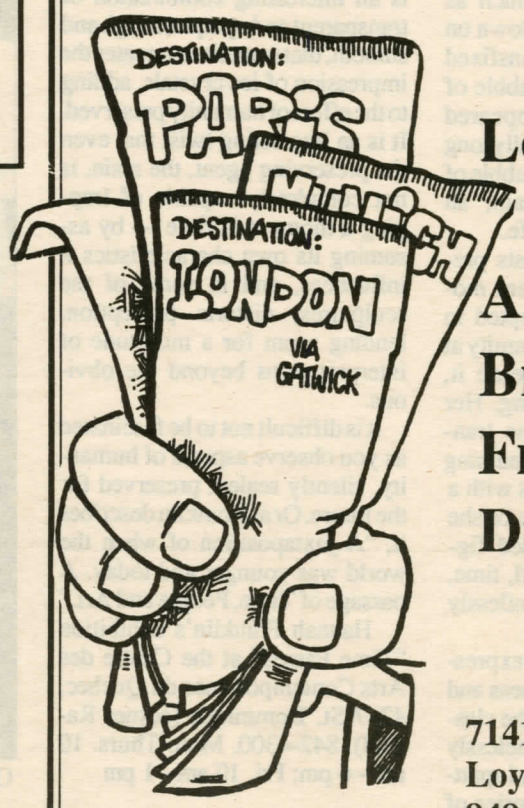

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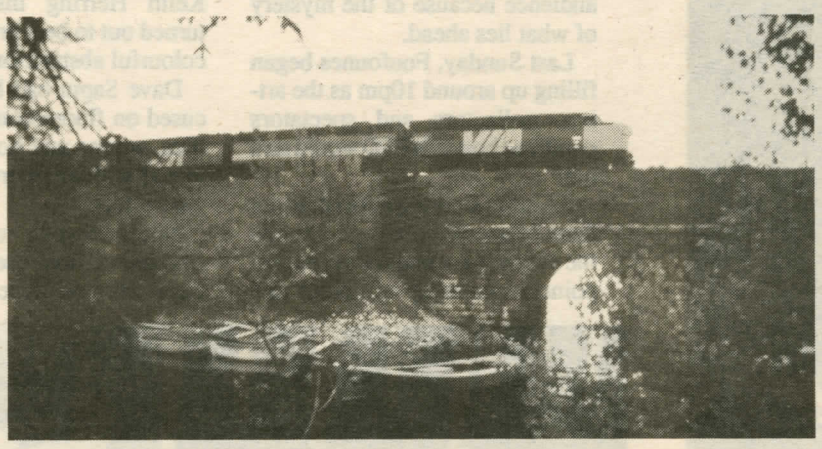


STUDENT CHART

	8 DAYS	15 DAYS	UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 15 EXTRA DAYS
COAST-TO-COAST	N/A	$239	$5/day
			UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 7 EXTRA DAYS
MARITIME	$ 69	N/A	$5/day
EASTERN	$159	N/A	$5/day
WESTERN	$169	N/A	$5/day

*Pass must be purchased between March 1st and June 30, 1989. Membership card to be picked up at CHA Offices in Canada.

FREE CANADIAN HOSTELLING ASSOC. MEMBERSHIP INCLUDED*

VIA trains cover our country

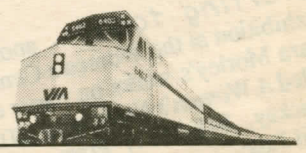
VIA Rail has over 18,500 kilometres of track. Our trains stop in over 416 Canadian communities. It's a rail network that covers the country as only the train can.

The romance of train travel

Your vacation begins the moment you board our trains. Friendly service, freedom to move around and opportunities to meet other travelling adventurers like yourself. All these unique qualities make the train a natural choice. Don't forget to bring an address book to record the names of the new friends you'll make!

For complete details, call your travel agent or VIA Rail.

CANRAILPASS



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Take the train. There's nothing quite like it!™